

# The Dublin Advocate

*To Encourage and Strengthen Our Community*

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Dublin, NH 03444

## Welcoming the Holiday Season All Around Town

In lieu of our traditional Christmas eve service, Dublin Community Church is inviting village neighbors to once again place luminaria around the village center, beginning at dusk on **Christmas Eve**.



### HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS AT THE DUBLIN COMMUNITY CHURCH

On **Saturday, December 4**, children are invited to join us as we decorate our first-ever outdoor Christmas Tree. Just inside the church, the Sunday School will be selling Heifer International Alternative

Gifts – you can choose to give a symbolic, sustainable gift of animals, trees, bees, or education programs.

Also on the morning of **Saturday, December 4**, a **Holiday Market** will be held on the east side of the Dublin Community Church, from 9 am to noon. No fees, no prices; pay as you wish

for festive ornaments, holiday housewares, seasonal decorations, and other surprises. Proceeds support Outreach. Since attendance in the small boutique is limited, dress warmly for waiting outside, where cups of warm cider will be served. Once inside, we ask that everyone wear masks. (Please, no early birds.)

The Dublin Community Church is located at 1125 Main Street, Dublin; 603-563-8139, [www.dublinchurch.org](http://www.dublinchurch.org).

## Happy Holidays

The Dublin Town Hall will be open for limited hours the weeks of Christmas and New Year's. Please plan ahead.

### KICK OFF THE HOLIDAYS AT THE CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

Mark your calendars for Dublin's Christmas Tree Lighting, which will be held on the green between Yankee and the Dublin Fire Department, **Sunday, December 12**, at 4 pm. This will be a great time to start the holidays with family and friends. Santa Claus has ordered his sleigh ready for his trip to Dublin.

Specially prepared tree-lighting songbooks will be passed out for the community singing of our favorite carols. We are fortunate to have Sarah Katka from Dublin Christian Academy to accompany us on piano.

Saxy Chef will provide delectable sweets and the best hot chocolate in New England.

This event is sponsored by Dublin's Recreation Committee. Members include Megan Suokko, Karen and Caleb Niemela, and Ramona Branch.



### JOIN IN THE HOLIDAY SEASON AT DUBLIN CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Theater and music events are once again open to the public at Dublin Christian Academy (DCA) – though seating is limited. We invite the community to two holiday events: our junior-high production of *Peter Pan* and our annual Christmas Vespers service.

*Peter Pan*: The seventh and eighth-grade students of Dublin Christian Academy will present *Peter Pan*, J. M. Barrie's timeless tale of the delights and dangers of childhood on **Thursday, December 9** at 6:30 in the evening. This family-friendly production is a fabulous way to kick off the holiday season! Seating is limited, so please reserve tickets at <https://dcaplay.eventbrite.com>. The show is free. Refreshments will be available and proceeds will support DCA's drama department.

**Christmas Vespers**: Dublin Christian Academy invites the community to its annual Christmas Vespers on **Friday, December 17**, at 11 am. Students from kindergarten through 12th grade will perform. Christmas Vespers is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Dublin Christian Academy, 106 Page Road, Dublin, or call 603-563-8505.



### CHRISTMAS AT MOUNTAIN VIEW BIBLE CHURCH

All are invited to join Mountain View Bible Church for the following Christmas events in Dublin.

An evening Christmas program celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ will be presented on **Sunday, December 19**, at 5:30 pm. The program will include vocal and instrumental carols, both old and new, and will be an hour in length.

On Christmas Eve, **December 24**, at 6 pm, we will enjoy a carol sing concluding with a candlelight singing of "Silent Night." Members of the church will provide cookies to enjoy after the event.

We hope you can celebrate Christmas with us at one or both of these events. Masks welcome.

Mountain View Bible Church is located at 81 Page Road in Dublin. Questions can be directed to [secretary@mtnviewbible.org](mailto:secretary@mtnviewbible.org) or call 603-563-8069. Visit [www.mtnviewbible.org/christmas](http://www.mtnviewbible.org/christmas) for details.

## Dublin Public Library

BY RACHAEL LOVETT

**A**t DPL we are merrily preparing for the holidays! This year we'll have a live Christmas Tree, a Menorah for Chanukah, and a Bendera for Kwanzaa. We encourage community members to bring in any additional traditional holiday décor in honor of your own holidays and celebrations. We'll also be celebrating National Ugly Sweater Day on **Friday, December 17!**

Come enjoy the atmosphere and cozy up with a good book by one of our fireplaces. In the spirit of giving, we will host a food drive throughout the month of December in support of the NH Food Bank. We're collecting non-perishable items, canned and dried goods, and whole grain foods.

We are starting up an after-school Lego Club on Thursdays from 3 to 5 pm. All youth are welcome to join. We'll start small and build as we please, then host some build challenges later on. Just a reminder, ConVal district students can take the bus right to us! Just notify your individual schools as appropriate.

On **Thursday, December 16** we're having a preliminary meeting to determine interest in a Cookbook Club. The Cookbook Club will be entirely virtual and meet every third Thursday at 6:30 pm. We hope those interested will join to explore new cuisine and culinary techniques, all from the comfort of their own kitchens! For all levels of cookery, visit [www.dublinnhpubliclibrary.org](http://www.dublinnhpubliclibrary.org) for more information.

The Library will be closed for holidays on December 24 & 25, and December 31 & January 1, 2022. Happy holidays to all!

RACHAEL LOVETT is director of the DPL.

## How Can Our Library Help Build Community?

BY JULIE RIZZO

**W**e heard some terrific ideas for the future of the Dublin Public Library at our public listening sessions in November! Soon, all community members will have another opportunity to provide feedback through a completely anonymous online survey, which is accessible on the Library website at [www.dublinnhpubliclibrary.org](http://www.dublinnhpubliclibrary.org).

Adults, teens, and children are encouraged to respond to the survey and let us know what you think. What is your favorite way to

use the Library? What would make it more useful for you? Are there other libraries you like to use – and what do you like about them?

Once the survey is posted, you'll be able to submit your ideas through the end of December. If you have trouble accessing the online survey, come into the Library and a staff member will be happy to help you.

We will consolidate feedback from the listening sessions and the online survey and share the highlights in a future issue of the *Advocate*.

Your ideas will help the Library play a vital role in building back community after such a long time away from each other!

JULIE RIZZO is a member of the Library board and is on the staff of the *Advocate*.

## Our Library Receives a Conservation Grant

BY LISA FOOTE

**T**he Trustees of the Dublin Public Library voted to accept a \$9600 grant from the NH State Council on the Arts at its public meeting of November 10, 2021. The funds will be used to make reproductions of the copper catch basins and downspouts installed in 1901 during the library's construction.

Giving this cultural conservation proposal a 93.7% rating, the NH Arts panel cites the "strong merit to restore resource's historical and artistic integrity" as one of the many strengths of the project.

Fragments of the original duct work, oxidized to green and somewhat misshapen, were found stored under the library's entry porch facing Main Street in the spring of 2020, and confirmation of their original placement was established from early photographs. It is unknown when these elements were replaced, likely when the gutters – which were originally integral to the roof overhang – were moved to the face of the eaves. Drainage remediation was completed recently.

Authentic reproductions will be created by Ed and Peter Packard of The Tin Shop in Beverly, MA, skilled artisans seen on PBS' "This Old House." The installation will serve decorative and functional purposes, as the ground water mitigation project warrant article passed at the 2021 town meeting will address runoff from the roof. Initially the elements will be shiny copper and will eventually oxidize to a soft green hue.

LISA FOOTE is on the staff of *The Dublin Advocate*.



### The 5th Annual Small Treasures Art Show and Sale

Online sales open  
December 4 at 12 noon and will  
end December 7 at 12 noon at  
[www.32auctions.com/  
smalltreasures2021](http://www.32auctions.com/smalltreasures2021)

Previews available  
through December 2  
online at above website or  
in-person by appointment by  
calling Susan at 908-672-6481  
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**Dublin Community Center**  
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## Mold Remediation at Town Hall

BY SUSAN PETERS

Last month, Town Hall was closed for in-person business for two weeks for mold remediation. Town Hall is a beautiful historic building built in 1881-1882 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. As with many old buildings, Town Hall has a stone foundation. On the north and east sides, parts of the foundation butt up against an earthen area. The age and construction of the building make it vulnerable to issues like mold (and rodents).

In October, Town Hall employees detected a mold smell in parts of the building. This was reported promptly to the Select Board; they held an emergency meeting to consider next steps. RPF Environmental was hired to do a preliminary survey and air quality testing. Mold Managers was hired to do remediation, which began the week of October 18. Mold Managers started on the third floor, in order to ensure that voting in the special election could go ahead on October 26.

From there, Mold Managers worked on the first floor and then the basement. While work in the basement was completed last, the basement area was sealed off during the entire remediation period to ensure safe use of the building. Mold Managers completed their work by the end of October.

Thank you to all residents for your patience and understanding while the building was closed and under remediation.

Looking ahead, the Select Board is exploring options to improve ventilation in the building, especially in the base-



ment. Better air quality control, upgraded dehumidifiers, and opening up some of the enclosed closet areas are all under consideration for the New Year.

SUSAN PETERS is a member of the Select Board, and is on the staff of the *Advocate*.

### Give the Plow Space and Time

Snowy roads are right around the corner. Please use caution when you see a snow plow! The crew driving the plow will signal to you when it is safe to pass them. In other words, don't crowd the plow.

Please do not park on a Town road during a storm or for eight hours after the storm has ended. Plowing snow off private property into a public road is not allowed.

Let's have a safe winter! Thank you.  
— Roger Trempe, Road Agent



## Planning a Safe, Incident-free Winter

BY RAMONA BRANCH

Winter's on its way. This time of year we are focused on getting ready for our usual wintery wonderland – stacking wood or bags of pellets; cleaning and putting away outdoor furniture; emptying, washing, and storing annual flower pots; cutting back flowers; and clearing walkways for snow blowers.

Now would also be a good time to go through your checklist of things to do to ensure that your winter months are safe, secure, and accident free.

Here are some reminders offered by Dublin Fire Chief Tom Vanderbilt:

1. Clean chimneys, wood stoves, and pellet stoves.
2. Check heating system – oil, propane, and thermostat.
3. Have metal container close at hand for live coals from fireplace, wood stove, or pellet stove.
4. Check to see that drapes and furniture are not susceptible to sparks from fireplace or wood stove.
5. Eliminate all hazards in frequently traveled pathways in your home.
6. Check/replace batteries in all smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.
7. Clear walkways of snow, ice, and debris.
8. Obtain a bucket of sand from the Highway Department to apply to outdoor walkways and driveways to prevent falls.
9. Check prescriptions and update routine medical supplies.

We all know, in New England we are always getting ready for the next season!

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

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## Thank You to Our Poll Workers

BY JUDY KNAPP



As they have in the five elections and town meeting since the beginning of the COVID pandemic, the Dublin Moderator, the Town Clerk, the Supervisors of the Checklist, the Board of Selectmen, and the Town Administrator have all worked to make the experience as safe as possible. In the end, however, they were aided by many Dubliners who volunteered to work at each election.

It has been a year and a half since we had our last “normal” town election, one in which no one wore a mask, we didn’t social distance, there weren’t sneeze guards in front of the ballot clerks, our ballot clerks worked 6-hour shifts, we all shook hands with our neighbors and friends, we voted in curtained booths, and shared the same pencil that other voters had used.

But this year, we all had masks, used hand sanitizer, social distanced, received our own pencils, voted in a newly disinfected booth, and entered and exited from different directions so we didn’t cross paths with other voters. As the adage goes, “What a difference a year [and a half] makes.” I have great hope that six months from now our town election will return to the way we remember.

Sarah Sangermano, Megan Suokko, and I (the Supervisors of the Checklist) would like to extend our gratitude to everyone

who worked as a ballot clerk or ballot counter and, again, extend our special thanks to Hank Campbell who set up the booths, tables, and the voting boxes for both the Primary in September and the Special Election at the end of October.

We all owe these individuals our thanks for making both the primary and the special election safe for the people of Dublin: June Brening, Nancy Campbell, Peter Cerroni, May Clark, Christine Clinton, Pam Cox, Laura Elcoate, Bill Gurney,

Andy Hungerford, Traceymay Kalvaitis, Peter Kenyon, Mary Loftis, Jesse Marcum, Carole Monroe, Sharon Murray, Elaine Sanford, Lucy Shonk, Celeste Snitko, Tim Suokko, Susie Vogel, and Kyle Wilcox.

When you see any of these people around town, please be sure to thank them for all that they did on September 7 and October 26.

JUDY KNAPP is chair of the Supervisors of the Checklist. The other members are Sarah Sangermano and Megan Suokko.

## Online Payments & Town Business

*Taxes will soon be due.*

BY JEANNINE DUNNE

The Town of Dublin implemented Interware Development’s electronic billing and payment software platform, EB2Gov, in November 2020. EB2Gov allows citizens to make instant and secure payments online at any time. Residents can pay their property taxes, renew their motor vehicle and dog licenses online, calculate motor vehicle estimates, as well as request vital records through the town website: [www.townofdublin.org](http://www.townofdublin.org).

On the left side of the Home page, you will find the button for “Online Payments.”

In the State of New Hampshire, more than 150 towns and cities are currently using EB2Gov. These partnerships allow residents to manage their municipal bills anytime, anywhere. The following online services are at no cost to the Town and a

small fee is added to payments for those who find value in requesting these services online: motor vehicle renewals and estimates, dog licensing, and property taxes. When you use a credit card to make your payment, you will be charged roughly 3% of the transaction total, plus a \$1.50 service fee. If you use the ACH (e-check) option, it is a \$1.50 charge per transaction, plus the \$1.50 service fee.

Citizens have the option to create a myEB2Gov account to get the added benefits of managing their assets with the town, scheduling payments, securely storing payment information for a faster checkout, and opting in to receive electronic notifications. Creating an account is recommended, although EB2Gov allows for guest checkout as well. Once the transaction is successfully completed, an email confirmation will be sent, and the transaction can be viewed in the citizen’s myEB2Gov account at any time.

JEANNINE R. DUNNE is Dublin’s Certified Tax Collector and Certified Town Clerk ([townclerk@townofdublin.org](mailto:townclerk@townofdublin.org)). She can be reached at PO Box 62, Dublin, NH 03444; 603-563-8859 or fax 603-563-9221.

**Ed Note:** It’s not every day that a town loses its moderator, but on November 5th, we lost ours. Tim Clark was rushed to CMC in Manchester on November 3, and died surrounded by his full family two days later. He was a most respected man, widely known, talented in many walks of life, and will be sorely missed by all. The *Old Farmer’s Almanac* staff submitted a tribute to be found later in this issue.

### J.E. Simpson PICTURE FRAMER

has found a new home at:

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## News from DCS

BY NICOLE PEASE

It is hard to believe that I am writing for the December issue for the *Advocate*. Where is the year going?

We have been able to bring back some of our long-standing traditions, one of which is our Halloween Parade. Students in all their costumed glory hiked up Dublin Hill to be greeted by families and community members. The excitement was palpable, among those parading or cheering the parade on!

November 10 brought the annual Veterans Day Assembly to DCS. Mr. Dick Dunning came to talk about the meaning of Veterans Day and students were each given a flag to honor at their home. Students expressed their appreciation for those who have served in our military by writing letters to local Veterans.

On November 23, DCS students enjoyed a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineer-



ing, and Math) day. Through the Nashua Adult Learning Center's Exploration Program, DCS students had so much fun engaging in hands-on learning activities such as Lights and Lasers, and Slime Science.

DCS celebrated Thanksgiving a little differently this year. Each classroom gathered ingredients to make a homemade soup and a dessert. Third and Fourth Grade Teacher Deb Quinn fired up the bread

oven to bake rolls. We joined together to celebrate our special school community and all the things for which we are thankful. We hope that you were surrounded by friends and family this Thanksgiving!

As we move into December, we are looking forward to the first report cards going home on the 3rd. We are also busy planning for our annual Craft Day in which each

staff member coordinates a holiday-themed craft. Students rotate through each activity and create beautiful treasures to share with their families. It is so sweet to see how focused and careful our students are while making special things for others.

The DCS Staff wishes you all a happy and healthy end of 2021 and welcoming in of the New Year!

NICOLE PEASE is Principal of DCS and HES.

## ConVal School Board – Financial Updates

BY ALAN EDELKIND

This update has been provided by Jim Fredrickson, Chair of Budget and Property Committee of which I am a member.

It's that time of year again from a school budget and property tax bill point of view. And it's time to start our annual series of articles regarding the financial aspects of running the District.

We're going to take a different approach this year. The past two years, our articles built a base of knowledge about the school budget and the property tax process. Instead of repeating some of the basics, we're going to address aspects of these that are either new or specific to this year. We won't address any non-financial aspect of the ongoing COVID pandemic.

Here's a brief preview of some of the articles we'll be publishing between now and the vote in March:

### OVERVIEW OF BUDGET SCHEDULE

- 2022 Property Tax Bills and Funds "returned" to towns in the District
- Summary of the recently negotiated three-year Collective Bargaining

Agreement (subject to voter approval in March)

- Details of proposed FY23 School Budget (also subject to voter approval in March)
  - Summary of current funding of education by the State of New Hampshire.
- These new articles (as well as all previous financial publications) will all be available on the ConVal School Board website: [schoolboard.convalsd.net](http://schoolboard.convalsd.net).

### FY23 CONVAL SCHOOL BUDGET SCHEDULE

*These are the key dates and events associated with this budget cycle:*

- July 1, 2021 – 1st day of FY22
- August 2021 – Board developed and approved "FY23 Budget Guidance"
- November 6, 2021 – Annual School Board Budget Meeting
- November/December – Towns issue 2022 Property Tax bills
- January 2022 – Board finalizes and "approves" Proposed FY23 Budget
- Public hearing on proposed Budget – January 11, 2022

- January 2022 – 2nd Board-sponsored Community Forum (date TBD)
- February 8, 2022 – Deliberative Session
- March 8, 2022 – Voting day
- July 1, 2022 – 1st day of FY23

*The two most significant changes this budget cycle includes:*

- The "return" of a significant amount of funds from FY21 (in next month's article).
- The 2nd Community Forum – to be held in late January after the Board approves the proposed budget and before the Deliberative Session in February.

### Annual School Board Budget Meeting –

The annual School Board Budget meeting was held on Saturday, November 6. The Superintendent and staff presented the initial proposed budget. The Board discussed several of the proposed changes including curriculum, planned expansion of the District's preschool program, and several other options. This was an informational meeting – decisions on specific aspects of the budget will be discussed and voted on at regularly scheduled Board meetings.

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).

## Invasives Presentation

BY JAY SCHECHTER

The Dublin Conservation Commission (ConComm) offers assistance and advice to Dublin land owners in the fight against non-native invasive plants. We sponsor an annual program to treat individual properties. As a continuation of these efforts, we sponsored a presentation by Doug Cygan, the Invasive Species Coordinator for the NH Department of Agriculture. This presenta-

tion was held on November 16, 2021, at the Dublin Community Church. Doug discussed invasive plants and various ways to control them.

Please consider signing up for our annual invasive treatment program. We will be publishing information about this program during the summer.

The DCC would like to thank the Dublin Community Church and Tracy May Kalvaitis for allowing us to use their facilities.

JAY SCHECHTER is chair of the ConComm. Other members are Rusty Bastedo, Jerry Branch, Katie Featherston, Maria Finnegan, Susan Peters, Felicity Pool, and Wendy White.



Here is a link to the poster that clearly shows invasives: [www.agriculture.nh.gov/publications-forms/documents/invasive-species-poster.pdf](http://www.agriculture.nh.gov/publications-forms/documents/invasive-species-poster.pdf). Here is a helpful link to a guide book authored by the speaker: [www.agriculture.nh.gov/publications-forms/documents/upland-invasive-species.pdf](http://www.agriculture.nh.gov/publications-forms/documents/upland-invasive-species.pdf).

## A Little Piece of Seasonal Dublin History

Two centuries ago, here in Dublin, Ella Gowing Mason (1851-1930) kept two scrapbooks of articles about Dubliners that she carefully clipped from the local newspaper. The copies of the original scrapbooks can be seen in the Dublin Historical Society Archives upon request.

Ella, whose given name was Ellen, was married to Milton D. Mason and their son-in-law was Henry D. Allison. In turn, Henry D. Allison was instrumental in this town (1869-1963). Not only was Henry the town grocer, and deliveryman, the town photographer circa 1895, but he taught penmanship, an actual art in late 1800s. [For details on Henry (p. 570), and on much more about Dublin in the old days, see the Town's most recent history, *Village on a Hill, A History of Dublin, New Hampshire 1752-2000* by Tom Hyman (Peter E. Randall Publisher, 2002).]

The transcriptions that follow are from Mrs. Mason's scrapbook, where one clipping, quite possibly from the 1893 *Peterborough Transcript*, relates to a holiday gathering in the Dublin Town Hall:

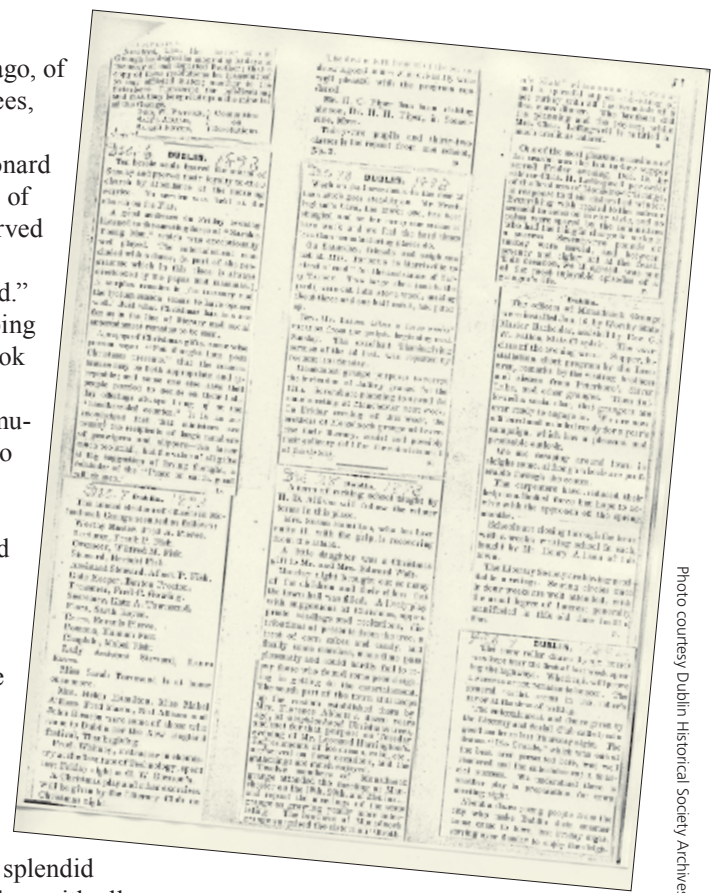
"Monday night brought out so many of the children and their elders that the town hall was filled. A lively play with suggestions of Christmas, appropriate readings and recitations, distributions of presents from the tree, a treat of corn cakes and candy, and finally some marches, made time pass pleasantly and could hardly fail to repay those who found some poor sleighing in getting to the entertainment. The south part of the town still keeps up the custom established there by Mrs. Flor-

ence Abbott a dozen years ago, of neighborhood Christmas trees, and met for that purpose on Tuesday evening at Mr. Leonard Harrington's. Refreshments of ice cream, cake, etc., are served on those occasions, and the gatherings are much enjoyed."

Another newspaper clipping from Mrs. Mason's scrapbook relates to a feast shared by many members of the community, also presumably near to their Christmas season:

"Twelve members of the Monadnock grange attended the meeting at Manchester on the 19th, 20th, and 21st inst., and report the meetings of the state grange as growing yearly more interesting. The brothers of Monadnock Grange surprised the sisters on "Brother's Night" with a unique presentation and a splendid supper consisting of hot turkey with all the essentials of a first class dinner. The brothers did the planning and the paying, while Mrs. Chas. Leffingwell is entitled to much credit as caterer.

One of the most pleasant occasions of the season was the hot turkey supper served Friday evening, Dec. 15, by caterer Chas. H. Leffingwell per order of the brothers of the Monadnock Grange, in response to their sisters last winter. Everything with regard to the caterer



seemed to come on in city style, and no pains were spared by the committees who had the things in charge to make it a success. Seventy-two pounds of turkey were served, and between seventy and eighty sat at the feast. This occasion, we all agreed, was one of the most enjoyable episodes of a granger's life."

*With thanks to Nancy Nolan for transcription, and to the Dublin Historical Society Archives for accuracy.*

Photo courtesy Dublin Historical Society Archives



## Light in the Night

*Lantern Festival Returns to Peterborough's Putnam Park.*

The organizers of Children and the Arts Festival ([childrenandthearts.org](http://childrenandthearts.org)) have announced that its annual **Lantern Festival** will take place as a multi-lantern installation beginning **Friday, December 3**, and lasting through Sunday, December 5, in Putnam Park in downtown Peterborough.

Photo courtesy Children and the Arts



Rows of lantern houses create a glowing village in the snow at last year's Lantern Festival.

Hundreds of glowing lanterns, hand-crafted into numerous shapes, including houses, churches, stars, and more, will be arranged on the grounds and in the trees throughout the park, creating an enchanted, luminous setting.

Children, families, and people of all ages are invited to see the park mystically transformed on these three nights in the early days of winter.

There is no charge to visit the installation, which is best enjoyed after the sun sets.

The Children and the Arts Committee, composed of committed citizen volunteers, also sponsors a free arts festival to celebrate art for, by, and with the children of our community. The annual spring festival attracts an estimated 5000 people from the Monadnock Region and beyond.



## Cleanup Day at Dublin Rotary Park

Jerry Branch led a morning cleanup last month at the Dublin Rotary Park. Seven Dubliners showed up to clean the trails, which included removing trees and limbs that had been professionally cut earlier. Volunteers cleaning up were (L to R) front row: Nancy Markuson, Kathleen Markuson, Abhai Raj. Second row: Bill Gurney, Jerry Branch, Don Markuson, Matt Keenan. Back row: David Markuson.

Not in the photo but at the cleanup: Susan Peters, a member of the Dublin Select Board.

Ella DrakeUnderkoffler has graduated from high school. Ella was Home Educated with a focus on Equine Studies. She was in a dual enrollment program in which she was Home Educated for High School while also taking college classes. Ella and her horse Benny have an exceptional bond and have completed internships and working student programs over the past several years. Because of the pandemic, Ella was able to double up in her course work and is now a Certified Equine Massage Therapist. She is seeing clients throughout the Monadnock Region.



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## Dogs on Depot

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Sheila Halvonik, Proprietor

## A Tribute to Tim Clark

*From the Staff of The Old Farmer's Almanac.*

Tim Clark played numerous roles in life – husband, father, friend, colleague, writer, editor, and many more in various settings. At Yankee Publishing, from 1976 to 1999, working mostly on *Yankee* magazine (occasionally as Norm D. Bloom), and then again from 2013 to 2020 on the *Almanac*, his role was more defined.

Here he was a wordsmith, a storyteller, a spokesperson, and an encyclopedic trove of quirky facts and ideas. He loved to hear or read a good story, and he took immense pleasure in telling a good story, to readers in print or to friends aloud, using dry wit to illuminate a point, just enough detail to inspire full-color imaginings, or staccato sentences to convey matters of historic and/or eyebrow-raising importance.

His curiosity ran deep and his interest in ideas (any ideas!) knew no bounds. Often, while factchecking *Almanac* articles, he would learn of a little-known fact or moment in time, propose it as an article he would love to write, and give us one of the most promotable and talked-about pieces in the issue.

Tim could cover any subject, any angle, inimitably and memorably, often with his tongue firmly embedded in his cheek. He wrote how to's, historic accounts, health advisories, folklore traditions (he held a degree in folklore from Harvard University), weather phenomena, wildlife, and nature. Here are some of his best-loved articles titles:

- How to Appear to Know More Than You Really Do; How to Tell When Someone is Lying
- A Brief History of Napping; A Sound History of Noise; The Fastest Man's Last Death-defying Ride
- Castration and Other Surefire Ways to Prevent Baldness;
- Sandals, Soles, and Shoe-perstitutions;
- The Tooth, the Whole Tooth, and Nothing But the Tooth;
- Telling the Bees
- Alas, Brave, Foolish Sam Patch; Witness to the Surrender (following the Civil War)
- Creatures From Hell; How Happy is a Clam? And so forth



Photo © 2013 Jerrod McCabe

### Timothy R. Clark 1950-2021

“Writer, teacher, actor – mentor. Friends and family praise late community pillar Tim Clark,”

by Ben Conant, *Monadnock Ledger Transcript*, 11/12/21, p. 1; obit p. 16.

appreciation for his friendship, spirit, and enthusiasm for life and learning, we would like to share this delightful and deft composition, for it speaks not just to his YPI family but to all who knew him:

*And so my Yankee sojourn ends,  
With thanks to you, my loving friends,  
Expressed in this neglected genre,  
With due respect and utmost honor.  
For you, I'd send a fulsome bloggerel,  
Compose a tuneful Indian raggarel,  
Consume a New Year's Eve eggnoggerel,  
Revive the long-extinguished quaggarel.  
Here's a toast in Navy groggerel:  
May all you live high on the hoggerel,  
Leap slim and spry as any froggerel,  
Heroes of a Viking saggarel!  
No more: Before I start to sloggerel,  
My arteries begin to cloggerel,  
Become a bump upon a loggerel,  
I'll halt this halting hound of doggerel.*

**Ed. Note:** Tim was lauded by these very same friends and colleagues in the December 2020 *Dublin Advocate* (p. 15) on the occasion of his retirement from the *Old Farmer's Almanac*.

- and, yes... 100 Ways to Avoid Dying and How to Become Immortal

Tim was interested in everything. But he was proprietary about the weather doggerel (“don’t let anyone else do that,” he said for years). The doggerel is the italicized verse on the Right-Hand Calendar Pages that appears vertically, one word per day, and is a whimsical interpretation of the actual weather predictions. He began composing these ditties in 1980 and he wrote one for every month through 2022. That’s 504 poems, 2,016 seasons, with nary a repeated phrase – and seldom an edit or revision!

His entry for November 1980, one of his first, reads as follows:

*Rain/drives,/then/Sun/thrives.  
Shivery/showers/make/you/cower.  
Kissed/by/mist.  
Cold/grabs/hold.  
Gale/wails/without/fail.  
Get/set/for/wet.  
Snow/blows/cold,/then/relents—  
Good/sense.*

Good sense, indeed. Tim made good sense.

He so loved the rhyming form that when he retired in 2020, he used it as his farewell valentine to YPI.

Now, with heavy hearts and deep

### Fairwood Service Team Available to Help

The Service Team from Fairwood Bible Institute in Dublin is available to assist the elderly, or other people in need, with an hour of service on Sundays. They offer basic yardwork chores – mostly raking, branch removal, light landscaping, etc. Snow removal is also available once winter sets in.

The usual time is from 3:30 to 4:30 on Sunday afternoons. If desired, it could be moved up to as early as 2 pm. The usual crew is one staff member and five students, ages 18-21.

For more information, please contact Dan Murray at [themurraysemail@gmail.com](mailto:themurraysemail@gmail.com).



## Lights of Love

See your gift come to "light."

On Friday, December 17, the Monadnock Area Transitional Shelter (MATS) will hold its Lights of Love program, a great way to honor or remember a loved one.

You may participate by donating \$5 for a light to be placed on the tree outside the Healing Arts Gallery, which is adjacent to the emergency room at Monadnock Community Hospital.

Your gift will shine a light for your loved one and also support the work of MATS, which has provided shelter for local families in transition for more than 30 years.

If you wish, a tribute card will be sent to the honoree to announce your gift.

Please join us for the virtual Tree Lighting virtually on Facebook, YouTube, or MATSNH.org.

To contact MATS, send mail to PO Box 3053, Peterborough NH 03458; visit MATSNH.org, or call 603-924-5033.



## Monadnock Chorus: Holiday Concerts

Students may attend for free.

The Monadnock Chorus is excited to be back at the Peterborough Town House, presenting *In Terra Pax* on **Saturday, December 11** at 4 pm, and on **Sunday, December 12** at 4 pm. The soloists, chorus, and orchestra will be conducted by our new Artistic Director, Colin Mann.

The program will include Gerald Finzi's *In Terra Pax*, Ralph Vaughan Williams' *Fantasia on Christmas Carols*, John Rutter's *Star Carol*, Victoria's *O Magnum Mysterium*, and a variety of other holiday works.

Tickets are \$20 and are available online at [Monadnock-Chorus.org](http://Monadnock-Chorus.org) or at the door. For more information, please email [MonadnockChorus@gmail.com](mailto:MonadnockChorus@gmail.com).



## Garden Surprises

When Shawn and Gretchen Post sent their daughter Callie (at left) down to her garden recently to harvest some carrots for dinner, they were very surprised to see what she came back with! They had never even heard of a carrot this big.

And in the next town over, little Louisa Miner, "the best garden helper around," helps to harvest a large butternut squash she found from alongside her patch of ever-bearing red raspberries.



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## December Events at the DubHub

### *DubHub Coffee and Conversation*

Coffee and Conversation continues on Monday and Wednesday mornings indoors at the DubHub, with face masks and social distancing. Masks can be lowered while eating or drinking. We're open from 10 to noon.

### *Knit with Nancy on Fridays*

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

### *Qigong on Wednesdays*

Qigong, the ancient Chinese practice of centering, has moved back indoors at the DubHub on Wednesdays, from noon to 1 pm. For more information, contact Ginette Groome at 603-313-9828.



Still Life by Sue Callihan, one of the Small Treasures in this year's show.

### *Small Treasures Art Show and Sale*

Small Treasures Art Show and Sale, a fundraiser for the Dublin Community Center, will take place online at [www.32auctions.com/smalltreasures2021](http://www.32auctions.com/smalltreasures2021) from noon December 4 through noon December 7. In addition to online purchasing, you can view the exhibit prior to the sale by appointment, through **Thursday, December 2**. The show may also be previewed online at the link above. To schedule an appointment to view the show, call Susan at 908-672-6481 or Mary at

603-831-6641. The online sale opens on Saturday, December 4.

### *"Neighbor to Neighbor" Zoom Chat*

"Neighbor to Neighbor" is a new Zoom-based series being initiated by the DubHub during the colder months. Each month we will host a conversation between two longtime Dublin residents and two newcomers, during which the community is invited to listen and possibly ask questions. Our first conversation features Phil and Nancy Cayford, founders of the Dublin Community Center, with their new neighbors on Boulder Drive, James and Maria Finnegan. This hour-long session on **Thursday, December 9** will start at 8 pm. The link will be available via the Hubbub newsletter or upon request at [info@dublin-communitycenter.org](mailto:info@dublin-communitycenter.org).

### *Pine Body Butter Class*

On **Tuesday, December 14**, Katherine Gekas will offer another herbal remedy class. This time she will discuss the medicinal benefits of the pine trees growing around us. Participants will make a pine body butter to enjoy for the winter months. Each participant will go home with a handout that includes a recipe and resources for making the butter at home. The class starts at 7 pm in the South Room of the Hub. Class is limited to 12, socially distanced and wearing face masks. The fee will be sliding scale, \$5-\$40. To sign up, email [katherinegekas2@gmail.com](mailto:katherinegekas2@gmail.com).

Last month, Katherine Gekas presented herbal home remedies for cold and flu season to a fully enrolled class.



Frank Rizzo barbecues bratwurst for the DubHub Oktoberfest recently.

### *Take-Out Community Lunch*

The next free Take-Out Community Lunch will be on **Thursday, December 16**, from noon to 1 pm. Drive by the entrance of the DubHub pick up your meal, or park and come to the main entrance. The menu will include soup, crackers, and Christmas cookies. Details will be in the Hubbub newsletter. For information, email [info@dublincommunitycenter.org](mailto:info@dublincommunitycenter.org).

### *Holiday Open Stage*

The DubHub will host a Holiday Open Stage on **Friday, December 17**, starting at 7 pm. Space is limited, so performers and audience members are asked to reserve a spot. Plans are to livestream the event. Check the Hubbub newsletter and DubHub Facebook page for details. For information, email [info@dublincommunitycenter.org](mailto:info@dublincommunitycenter.org).

### *DubHub Songwriters Group*

The DubHub Songwriters Group meets at 7 pm on **Monday, December 20**. This month songwriters are encouraged







Al Brogden entertains at DubHub Oktoberfest.

(but not required) to bring a holiday song they're working on. Which holiday, or whether sacred or secular, serious or silly, doesn't matter. Attendance is limited to 12 participants, and face masks are required. For more information, or to reserve a spot, email [info@dublincommunitycenter.org](mailto:info@dublincommunitycenter.org).

### Pop-up Snow Creation Contest Returns

In anticipation of big snow, the DubHub is organizing another pop-up snow creation contest, open to anyone in Dublin. Last year's contest was a big hit. At the

first big snowfall, we will alert everyone who has registered. After 24 hours, judges will drive by to take a photo of your creation. The Saturday immediately following the alert/snow-building, we will host an outdoor celebration with hot chocolate and prizes from local businesses outdoors in back of the Hub.

To enter, send your contact information (email and phone number) and address (for the judges) either to Balmeet at [balmeet@gmail.com](mailto:balmeet@gmail.com) or to Volkert at [info@dublincommunitycenter.org](mailto:info@dublincommunitycenter.org).

### Ken Page Joins DubHub Board

Ken Page was elected to the Dublin Community Center board at last

month's board meeting to fill the role of treasurer in January 2022 being vacated by outgoing board member, Phil Cayford.

### Connect with the DubHub

New members of the Dublin community are invited to sign up for the weekly Hubbub from the DubHub newsletter at <http://eepurl.com/bLCNTz>. We plan to host some online newcomer activities in the near future.

VOLKERT VOLKERSZ is Program Coordinator of the Dublin Community Center - The DubHub, 1123 Main Street, Dublin, NH 03444-0249; 603-563-8080; cell 425-308-0091; [info@dublincommunitycenter.org](mailto:info@dublincommunitycenter.org) or visit our new website: <https://dublincommunitycenter.org>



Two sessions on Youth Mental-Health First Aid, by Peterborough Fire Chief Ed Walker, yielded ten certifications.

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## What NextDoor Can Offer Us

BY MEGAN SUOKKO

NextDoor is a social network based on the location of your home or neighborhood. The easiest way to join NextDoor is by verifying your address directly on [nextdoor.com](https://nextdoor.com). You can also be added by a neighbor who personally invites you via e-mail or postcard through the mail. In the past year, NextDoor has focused much of its content on three key components:

**1. Find and offer help:** NextDoor has a posting feature for members to offer to pick up or drop off groceries for their neighbors, to help with house cleaning, moving furniture, babysitting, and – my favorite – re-homing of used items! There are loads of free things from houseplants to bunk beds.

There is also a new feature this year for people who are offering help to fight

feelings of isolation, virtual book clubs, parenting groups, or you can join a group that focuses on just one thing, like bird watching.

**2. Urgent Alerts and Health Advisories:** NextDoor is a great way to stay on top of the local news. There are urgent alerts about everything from lost pets to local mosquito-based illnesses. NextDoor now groups all the Coronavirus updates in a dedicated section called COVID-19 Updates.

All news-related reports and national disaster information are moderated by NextDoor staff. However, local news reports are helpful to link and share for



vital information – like school closures due to weather.

**3. Support small, local businesses:** NextDoor is a great way to recognize a local community member or business that was able to provide their neighbor with outstanding service. Many of the posts on NextDoor ask for recommendations for local plumbers, pavers, housecleaners, tree service, snow

removal, restaurants, caterers, and even dog groomers! Businesses can build their own pages, can share their COVID-19 policies, and also post their hours and prices.

NextDoor is just another way to keep our community connected. Hope to see you virtually or in-person around the neighborhood!

MEGAN SUOKKO is owner of Dogs on Depot based in Peterborough, and Woof Wagon, a mobile pet-grooming service.

## CCCD Launches Third Year of “Conservation Opportunity Fund”

*Grants support wildlife habitat on small tracts in Cheshire County.*

The Cheshire County Conservation District (CCCD) announced its third year of a grant program that will provide small grants up to \$1,500 for wildlife habitat improvement projects.

The Conservation Opportunity Fund’s mission is to provide funding for owners of small tracts of land who are interested in improving the wildlife habitat on their property. This program is an annual opportunity to support environmental stewardship and the ecological integrity of Cheshire County, NH.

Five excellent applications were accepted in 2021 and progress is under way toward completing those projects. The CCCD seeks a new round of proposals

from landowners of small tracts of land, less than 25 acres, who are interested in funding to make meaningful long-term impact on wildlife habitat and biodiversity. Eligible applicants include individuals, businesses, farmers, and/or forestland owners.

Types of projects eligible to receive funding from the Conservation Opportunity Grant include installation of native pollinator habitat; installation of rain gardens; creation/maintenance of early successional habitat; creation of vegetated buffers on surface waters (e.g., lakes, streams, etc.); and conversion of lawns and/or fields to native plant gardens.

If you have a project idea that is not

listed above, please call the CCCD office to inquire about eligibility.

CCCD will be holding two optional virtual informational sessions for interested applicants; the second is on **January 4, 2022**, at 12 pm. Registration is required. Visit [www.cheshireconservation.org/conservation-opportunity-fund](https://www.cheshireconservation.org/conservation-opportunity-fund).

Completed applications are due to the CCCD no later than **February 1, 2022**, and can be submitted digitally; mailed to Conservation Opportunity Fund, Cheshire County Conservation District, 11 Industrial Park Dr., Walpole, NH 03608; or email [amanda@cheshireconservation.org](mailto:amanda@cheshireconservation.org) (or call 603-756-2988 x4). Successful grant applicants will be notified of award by March 15, 2022.

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## The Healing Power of the Great Outdoors

BY MARIA FINNEGAN

In March of 2020, the world as we knew it shut its doors. The cornerstones of our daily routines —attending school, working in an office, and gathering for community meetings abruptly stopped. The places that brought us joy like restaurants and museums were suddenly off limits. And seeing our friends and family was now dangerous to our health. In the span of a week, our world had shrunk to the confines of our homes, as mystery illness tore across our country. It is a time we will never forget.

As the walls closed in, many of us looked out our windows and saw relief, an escape. For the majority of our community, living in rural New Hampshire means almost immediate access to the great outdoors, whether it be on our own land or via a public trail.

As Dublin residents, we have a spoil of options at our doorstep, the most obvious of which lends its name to our beautiful corner of the state. A walk outside is how we clear our head, collect our thoughts, and connect with nature. It's part of our daily life. But during the pandemic, a simple hike in the woods has become part of our therapy. Being outside is how we have coped with the upheaval of our lives – a constant in a constantly changing time. We are very fortunate to live where we do.

But something rather extraordinary has happened over the last 18 or so months – the “secret” is out. People across the northeast (and farther) have flocked to New Hampshire hoping to heal their minds and hearts by bathing their senses in our state's natural beauty. I'm sure you've seen it too. Beyond the annual leaf peepers, our trails



are bustling, and our real estate is booming. People want to get outside and hike, and they want to do it here.

As an amateur “ourdoorswoman,” and former city dweller myself, this has been thrilling to witness. Years ago I came down with a mystery illness that was exacerbated by stress. As one can imagine, long hours and work travel compounded my symptoms, and doctors could only prescribe, and over prescribe, in an attempt to help. However, I found the most effective treatment was time spent in the woods, away from the anxiety of my life in Cambridge. In nature I experienced the calm I was searching for, and felt grounded amongst the roots. It brings me joy to think that others might be doing the same.

There is no silver lining to a pandemic, there just isn't. With that said, in this time

of loss and trauma, people have sought both refuge and freedom on the myriad trails that crisscross our state. Many have connected (and reconnected) with nature, and have grown to understand how important wild places are to our wellbeing. This is a blessing. For those who are seeking a bit of certainty in an uncertain time, I invite you outside.

MARIA FINNEGAN is a Dublin resident, whose earlier article about the Friendly Farm appeared in the August *Advocate*, p. 7.

## Being Bearwise

Though each year may be different, the NH Fish and Game website indicates that birdfeeders can be put back up again much later in December, or wait for the New Year. See the Something's Bruin section of its website for information on bear behavior and tips on keeping them out of your yard: [www.wildlife.state.nh.us/wildlife/bears/index.html](http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/wildlife/bears/index.html).

Also seasonally we are advised to prevent bears from visiting by keeping all garbage secured, cleaning barbecue grills, and not leaving pet food outdoors. This advice is intended to deter property damage and protects our bears so that they do not become habituated to human-related foods.

(It is in April that we take down birdfeeders to discourage bears from visiting our backyard birdfeeders.)

Find out more about living with New Hampshire's black bears at Something's Bruin in New Hampshire: Learn to Live with Bears! ([www.wildlife.state.nh.us/wildlife/profiles/black-bear.html](http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/wildlife/profiles/black-bear.html)).



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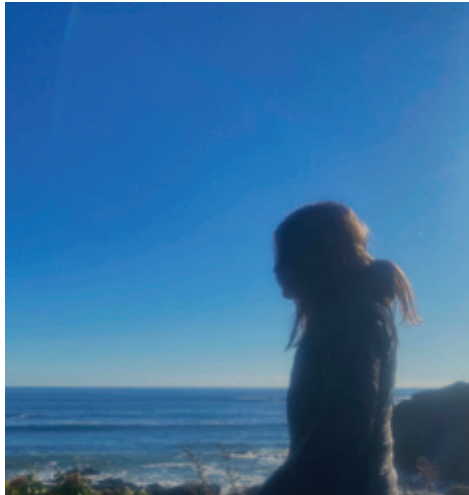
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## Take in the Moment

BY GRACE O'BRIEN

We must resume. Every day we may hear things that are harder to hear than others. We could be stopped in our tracks as we feel guilt, disappointment, and even excitement. When we think of being stopped in our tracks our minds immediately think of the worst. A dreaded phone call, or simply someone telling you something you don't want to hear. We have all been there, and all have had a moment of pausing. The moment where you don't stop it will be harder to put yourself back into the lines that you walk so clearly in. When something unexpectedly bad happens we forget how to move again, but when something



unexpectedly good happens we forget how to stop moving. We are constantly walking in this perfectly imperfect cycle

where our lives meet reality. We are forced to keep our own steady pace with no planned interruptions, fast forwards, or pauses. Although we may consider some things are worth pausing for. To take in the moment. Like a beautiful view is worth stopping for while you are on a walk. You don't know when you will ever feel this way again towards something, or see the mountain peak shine so bright. A pause doesn't last forever. It is a capture of the camera, as you continue walking through the ongoing cycle of reality. It is important that we don't forget every time we choose to stop and pause, but we must always resume.

GRACE O'BRIEN is in her freshman year at ConVal. Her earlier article for the *Advocate* appeared in the July 2021 issue, p. 10.

### Well-prepared for Winter

"I don't have to think about wood supply for a year now!" said a neighbor, with three cords stacked in their garage, and the next season's supply already under cover.



## NH State School Board Votes Charter for Lionheart

*A classical academy chartered public school forms in Peterborough.*

New Hampshire's State Board of Education voted November 10, 2021, to approve a State Charter for Lionheart Classical Academy Chartered Public School. The academy, scheduled to open in Peterborough in September 2022, will be an open-enrollment, tuition-free classical chartered public school initially offering kindergarten through grade 5.

Augusta Petrone and Leo Plante, both from Dublin, are two of the five co-founders of Lionheart Classical Academy, which will focus on delivering to its students a classical curriculum developed by Hillsdale College that is founded in the liberal arts and sciences, focusing on core elements including history, literature, mathematics, and science. The school plans

to expand its operations to serve kindergarten through grade 12 over the next several years.

One of the school's goals is to help its students become well-rounded individuals who are prepared for further academic pursuits and the responsibilities of citizenship.

Next up on the new school's docket will be acceptance of both student registrations (due to open immediately and continue through March 2022) and employment applications for school faculty and staff. At the same time, the academy's facilities at 10 Sharon Road in Peterborough will be prepared for the school's opening in September 2022.

For more information, visit [Lionheart-Classical.org](http://Lionheart-Classical.org).



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## The Met: Live in HD Returns to The Players

The Peterborough Players' Grand Restart continues with the return of the Arts on Screen series.

The Met's celebrated series of high-definition simulcasts returns with a lineup of ten dazzling performances.

Audiences can experience the thrill on the big screen at the Players starting with Massenet's *Cinderella*, streaming live on **New Year's Day, January 1, 2022**. Tickets are on sale now.

The Players series of showings is followed by Mussorgsky's *Boris Godunov* on **January 15**. The season will continue with Verdi's *Rigoletto* on **January 29**, Terence Blanchard's *Fire Shut Up in My Bones* on **February 12**, Matthew Aucoin's *Eurydice* on **February 26**, Strauss's *Ariadne auf Naxos* on **March 12**, Verdi's *Don Carlos* on **March 26**, Puccini's *Turandot* on **May 7**, Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor* on **May 21**, and Brett Dean's *Hamlet* on **June 4, 2022**.



The fairy godmother in *Cinderella*, The Met Opera, January 1.

All performances will begin at 1 pm except for *Don Carlos* on March 26, which will begin at noon.

While the Players welcomes audiences back indoors, for the safety and comfort of all involved,

COVID protocols will be in place for all attendees including proof of vaccination.

The Players encourages everyone to read the page on their website entitled Planning Your Visit: COVID Information prior to purchasing tickets for, or attending, live



A scene from *Eurydice*, The Met Opera, February 26.

events, and we are grateful for our patrons' understanding.

Single tickets for performances from the Met: Live in HD are \$25. A subscrip-

tion package for all ten operas is available on [www.peterboroughplayers.org](http://www.peterboroughplayers.org), or call the box office at 603-924-7585 for more information.

## Operation Santa Celebrates 35 Years

BY PEGG MONAHAN

Grand Monadnock Rotary Club (GMRC) is again distributing gifts to children in need living in the Monadnock Region. Operation Santa started in 1986. For 35 years, Rotary has distributed gifts from Santa through elementary schools, non-profit agencies, and town welfare offices. The families are selected by the schools and area agencies to receive gifts for their children, from infants to older teens.

Santa's Wish Lists are made up by the parents for items that the children want (toys) and what they need (often clothing). The gifts ideas are not random, but what the parents select. Area business and Rotary members then volunteer to be shoppers. More than 220 children will be served this year with gifts totaling \$100 for each child.

GMRC is interested in hearing from you about your interest in the community and how to be involved in the important work that Rotary does. To find out more, please visit [www.GrandMonadnockRotary.org](http://www.GrandMonadnockRotary.org).

PEGG MONAHAN is a member of the Grand Monadnock Rotary Club, which meets in Peterborough on Tuesday mornings. The GMRC is a recent merging of the Peterborough and Dublin Rotary clubs.



This year's Santa's Helpers (L-R) include Rotary President Greg Robidoux, Rick MacMillan, Laura Gingras, and Jim Guy.



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## Power To Heal

*Celebrating Martin Luther King Jr.*

Everyone is invited to attend the Jaffrey-Rindge Celebrating Martin Luther King Jr. event on **Monday, January 17, 2022**, from 5 to 6:15 pm, at the United Church of Jaffrey, 54 Main St. This free community event is designed to reflect on values championed by Dr. King and renew commitment to peace, brotherhood, and social justice.

Professor James Waller of the Keene State College Cohen Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies will be the keynote speaker.

The event will feature music by Jaffrey-Rindge School District choruses

and a special appearance by the dynamic Hutchinson Family Ensemble. A reception follows the event.

As part of the MLK Jr. holiday events, Dan Billin will present the New Hampshire Humanities program, "Abolitionists of Noyes Academy" at The Park Theatre, date to be announced.

Visit MLK Celebration Jaffrey-Rindge on Facebook for other events and activities including the 2022 MLK National Day of Service, change to virtual format depending on COVID conditions, and cancellation or rescheduling due to weather. All events are free and open to all.

Questions? Please contact jaffrey-rindgemlk@gmail.com or call Peggy at 603-562-8464.

## HCS Offers Walk-in Hours in Keene

Home Healthcare, Hospice and Community Services (HCS) welcomes residents of Dublin to "Walk-in Wednesdays." Drop by for completely free, off-the-record, individual advice from our staff members who specialize in home care, hospice, and advance care planning. Welcome to Walk-in Wednesdays, where worries lighten as you learn about ways we can help.

Walk-in Wednesdays will be held on the first Wednesday of each month from 2 to 4 pm at the HCS office in Keene, located at 312 Marlboro Street. The next two Walk-in dates are **Wednesday, December 1** and **Wednesday, January 5**. Those who are not able to stop by are encouraged to call 603-352-2253 for information any time.

Masks will be required at Walk-in Wednesdays, and staff will adhere to CDC guidelines for social distancing during your visit.

HCS is a Monadnock United Way agency providing comfort, care, and support in southwest New Hampshire communities.

## APA Apologizes for Longstanding Contributions to Systemic Racism

*Acknowledges failures, accepts responsibility, pledges change for psychology.*

"As part of the nation's historic reckoning on racism, the American Psychological Association has apologized to communities of color for its role – and the role of the discipline of psychology – in contributing to systemic racism.... The three resolutions were accompanied by a chronology of the long history of psychology's and APA's harms to communities of color, which served as a resource to inform APA's work on the apology and the path forward."

SOURCE: [www.apa.org/news/press/releases/2021/10/apology-systemic-racism](http://www.apa.org/news/press/releases/2021/10/apology-systemic-racism)

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## Our Generosity Is Helping

End 68 Hours of Hunger is feeding nearly 200 kids a week these days, so we're always happy to receive food donations – and Dubliners continue to be wonderfully generous. They're also wise – wise enough to recognize that because we try to give the same foods to each child, we're really specific in terms of what items we can use.

Small sizes are great, since everything has to fit in a child's backpack, and glass is not accepted, since you can imagine the inside of that backpack by the time the glass jar of spaghetti sauce made it home!

Also, before leaving items on the shelves at the Community Church, please check expiration dates; we're not able to use anything that's passed its date.

We may be fussy, but we want to see your money go to items we can actually use. And we're truly grateful for your continued generosity! Thank you.

## Specific Items Most Needed at Hundred Nights

Hundred Nights shelter in Keene (<https://hundrednightsinc.org>) lists the following items as most needed at this time: boots, gloves, socks, shaving cream, shavers, regular-size shampoo, small packages of tissues. (Please no clothing right now – they are overwhelmed with those donations.)

Items may be dropped off at the west entrance (Keene side) of the Dublin Community Church. Or drop off at the shelter on 17 Lamson Street in Keene between 8:30 am and 4 pm, but please call the shelter first at 603-352-5197.

Thank you for helping the emergency shelter and resource center enable people who are "reaching for the warmth of home."

## The River Center

New this fall to The River Center is a biweekly support group for expectant parents, Your Pregnancy, led by family support specialist, Mackenzie Nichols, who is a lactation advisor, a postpartum doula, and an LNA. Your Pregnancy meets in-person every other Tuesday from 6 pm to 7:30 pm. Nichols encourages a relaxed environment where people can discuss pregnancy and postpartum-related topics and build friendships.

On **Tuesday, December 7**, our final Tuesday Topic of 2021 will be Self-Care for Parents during the Holidays via Zoom from 7 to 8 pm. Parents and caregivers will learn new strategies and routines to ease stress and relax expectations during the busy holiday season.

To register, or for more information on these programs and others, please visit [rivercenternh.org](http://rivercenternh.org).

The River Center 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. It is located at 9 Vose Farm Rd., Suite 115, Peterborough.

## Continue to Use Caution

From a recent Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health e-newsletter: "it's more important than ever to continue taking safety precautions to keep you, your family, and your loved ones protected against illness from COVID-19. Mask wearing in large groups, around unvaccinated individuals, or in poorly ventilated places is still important along with frequent handwashing and physical distancing ...." Visit [vaccines.gov](http://vaccines.gov) for vaccine locations near you.



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## Grounding Our Holiday Choices

*Whatever gifts you buy, try to buy in person.*

As we scramble to stack wood, rake and mow fallen leaves and acorns, secure windows, mark plow lines, prep the cars and gardens before winter is upon us, we are reminded that with season's greetings come duties of other kinds, namely shopping for gifts.

The media is already posting which toys to buy now and which later, to add to the ever-burgeoning mix of items already present in our lives and even in our children's rooms.

Perhaps a few of these items and gifts are necessities. Were we – or the children – to pass along one gift for each new gift brought in, less would accumulate. Rummage sales are beset with toys abandoned by children who have outgrown them or lost interest, and full with the overflow in adults' lives.

Rather, could we invest in creativity, in people, or in nonprofit / philanthropic endeavors? Could we buy colored pencils or crayons, with pads of clean white paper? Or fill the Secret Santa's wishes first? Even the *New York Times* has an article that's titled "How to buy nothing new for the holidays." We need not go that far.

Learning knitting or needlepoint with an elder might be one fine place to start; planting bulbs with neighbors or children (weather permitting of course), or learning to identify birds or insects, even tracking weather are all possibilities. Could we seek to recognize the mysterious map of the stars, or discern what makes granite different than ledge, or potting soil from enhanced top soil? Do puzzles or games still entertain?

And hobbies: there's stamp and coin collecting, cooking and baking, writing and drawing, art or theatre, getting outside and of course, reading.

Let's figure out which books are the classics we might most prefer, which offer the best art; could we invest in audible books to reduce cellphone activity? Perhaps find a good book group just for you.

Maybe even sign up for Tai Chi or judo, ballroom dancing or weightlifting, Pilates or Zumba.

Then there is the great outdoors, which for many, comes first: skiing, or snowshoeing, skating or sledding, even hiking or walking the dog. (When slipping or sliding, use poles or don crampons!)

As we think about keeping the plea to shop local this holiday season, can we also think about entertaining ourselves – and our children – at a simpler level? Consider and engage what best serves our children's growth, our own later years, as well as our neighbors.

And last, what are some ways to help others? This is a season specially to think of others who could use a hand. Beyond going local, one unique option to consider is buying an animal (from Heifer International or World Wildlife Fund) for a family accustomed to living on the land who could use some assistance.

May your holidays be happy.



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## Trees and Forests Pest Alert: Insect Infestations

*In cooperation with NH Dept of Agriculture.*

BY STEVE ROBERGE

The NH Division of Forests and Lands mapped more than 52,000 acres of insect infestation damage in the annual aerial survey. See Aerial Survey Highlights can be seen in an online interactive map at [nhdfl.maps.arcgis.com](http://nhdfl.maps.arcgis.com).

Here's a summary:

- Lymantria dispar (aka gypsy moth): 36,885 acres of red oak defoliation
- Oak leafrolling weevil: 6,760 acres of oak defoliation
- Hemlock looper: 2,449 acres of hemlock defoliation
- Emerald ash borer: 2,697 acres of ash mortality
- Red pine scale: 914 acres of red pine mortality
- Saddled prominent: 708 acres of oak defoliated
- Maple leafcutter: 515 acres of sugar maple defoliation

**Emerald Ash Borer:** Since June, EAB has been detected in six new towns.

**Jumping Worms:** We have received many reports of jumping worms through-

**B**e our eyes where we can't be and report what you see. Whenever you see suspicious insects or signs of insects infesting your trees, report it to [NHbugs.org](http://NHbugs.org). Pictures are very helpful: [nhbugs.org/invasive-insect-reporting-form](http://nhbugs.org/invasive-insect-reporting-form).



out New Hampshire in compost, mulch, soil, and leaf litter.

Fall is for pines, too. When golden-colored needles from eastern white pines blanket roofs and driveways, it's due to seasonal needle drop – a normal part of an evergreen, or coniferous, tree's life cycle.

See the latest from forest health specialists at The New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands, or sign up for the update at [nhdfl.us6.list-manage.com](http://nhdfl.us6.list-manage.com).

The Tree and Forest Pest Alert is produced in cooperation with the N.H. Division of Forests & Lands, N.H. Dept. of Agriculture, Markets & Food, USDA APHIS, and U.S. Forest Service.

UNH Cooperative Extension is at work in every New Hampshire county, making the state's key industries stronger, developing vibrant communities and municipal leaders, fostering healthy families and an informed and engaged citizenry, and keeping the state's natural resources healthy and productive.

The University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension is an equal opportunity educator and employer. University of New Hampshire, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and N.H. counties cooperating.

STEVE ROBERGE ([Steven.Roberge@unh.edu](mailto:Steven.Roberge@unh.edu)) is Extension Forester in Cheshire County, UNH Cooperative Extension, 33 West St., Keene, NH 03431; 603-352-4550.

## Community Take-Out Supper Is for Everyone

**O**n **Tuesday, December 28**, a free Community Take-Out Supper is offered by the Dublin Community Church. Pickup begins at 5:30 pm. The menu will be chicken surprise, cranberry sauce, and dessert. Reservations are required. Call Laurie Jameson at 876-5003 by Friday, December 24, to reserve a meal and give her your phone number. You will be given directions when you call. All are welcome.



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# DECEMBER 2021 Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>THE WAY WE WERE, 2019</b> <b>Happy Holidays</b> Join everyone for this year's Tree Lighting on Sunday, December 12, at 4 pm			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

THE DUBLIN ADVOCATE may be found online and in color at [WWW.DUBLINADVOCATE.COM](http://WWW.DUBLINADVOCATE.COM)

**The Dublin Advocate** is written by neighbors, for neighbors. Everyone is welcome to submit articles and/or photographs of interest to the community. Email submissions 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.

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