

The Dublin Advocate

To Encourage and Strengthen Our Community

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Dublin, NH 03444

Building Community at Dublin School's Nordic Center

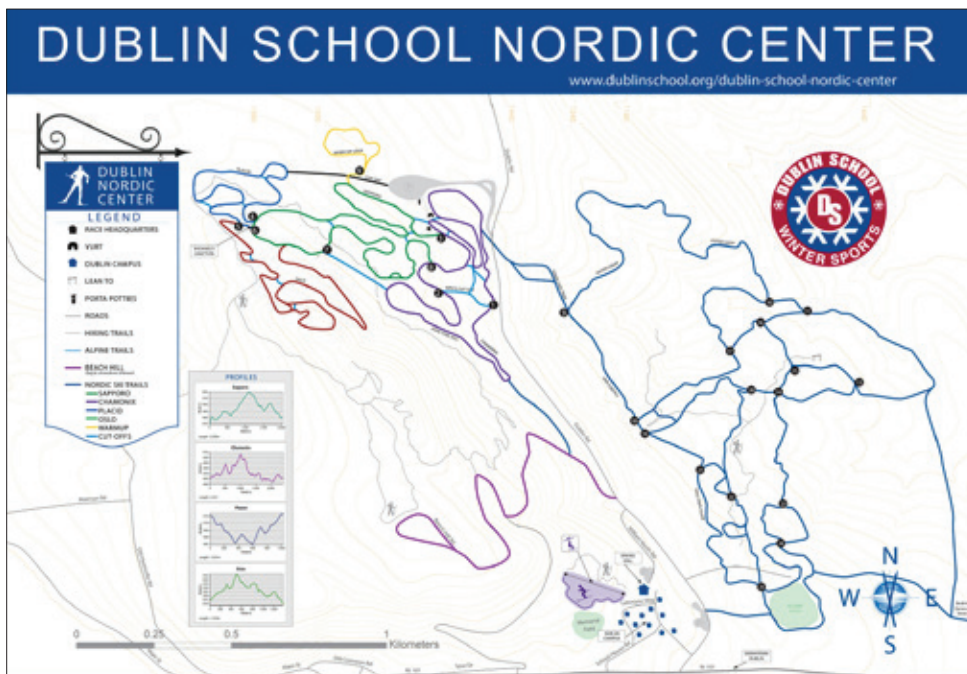
You can sign up for Dublin XC programs by going to dublinxc.com.

BY BRAD BATES

We are looking forward to a great winter season at the Dublin Nordic Center and we invite the public to come and ski and snowshoe this winter. We had a great turnout for our volunteer trail day and the trails should be skiable with just a few inches of snow. Thanks to our collaboration with Beech Hill Trails, we will once again groom the old Beech Hill Hospital driveway and upper meadow for all uses, including dog walking, hiking, and fat biking. We ask that people using the Nordic Center trails during the winter only ski and snowshoe – and not bring dogs – so we can preserve the trail conditions. Maps of these trail systems are available at the entrance to the trails and online at dublinschool.org/dublin-school-nordic-center.

With the closing of Windblown Ski Area, we hope to welcome more touring skiers and families to our center this winter. Our Nordic Center is free to the public and is supported by donations large and small. Donations can be made online or using the Venmo code posted near the yurt.

The calendar is posted online but we do have some updates and events to share already. The Nordic Center will once again host a New England Nordic Ski Association (NENSA) Eastern Cup race on the weekend of February 20-21. These races bring the top junior racers to Dublin as they compete to qualify for the Junior Nationals in Utah in March. The Nordic Center serves as the home course for the Dublin XC Ski Club, Dublin School Ski Team, ski teams from Keene High



School, ConVal High School, Souhegan High School, and Harvard University. Harvard will be hosting a major college race in 2023. The Dublin School students in the woodworking program are building a warming hut for the upper trails that we hope to have open by mid-winter (see link for photos: www.dublinschool.org/consolidated-blog/warming-hut).

Dublin XC is our local ski club, which is separate from Dublin School and is open to any age group. We have a Bill Koch league club (the equivalent of little league for Nordic skiing) that meets one afternoon a week throughout the winter. We have a junior program for high school skiers

hoping to take their racing to the next level coached by nationally recognized coach Kathy Maddock and assistant coach Holly Macy. (You have probably seen these athletes training hundreds of hours on their roller skis during the off-season.) Many of these athletes go on to ski in college. We also have a master's program for adults who want to add a social component to their skiing and even try a race or two.

You can sign up for Dublin XC programs by going to dublinxc.com. The goal of these trails is to build community during the winter months, and we look forward to seeing you all on the trails this winter.

If you have any questions about using the Nordic Center, you can email the Center's Director Lisa Bates (lbates@dublinschool.org), check the regular updates on the Center's website (dublinschool.org/dublin-school-nordic-center), or follow us on Instagram and/or Facebook.

BRAD BATES is Head of School at Dublin School.

Dublin Nordic Trails Are Open!

The Dublin Nordic Center is one of four trail systems currently open in New England! With the ability to make snow, all we need are a few cold nights and the trails are ready for skiing (after some grooming of course). The trails are fully lit after dusk making it possible to enjoy the Nordic Center anytime.

Happy New Year from the Dublin Public Library

BY RACHAEL LOVETT

With a new year comes our resolutions - and we have a great program to start you off on the right foot! Shannon Honeycutt will bring the life-changing magic of tidying through her virtual Spark Joy Webinar. Shannon will share the KonMari philosophy and guiding principles needed to tidy once and for all, where you can learn what it means to lead a life that Sparks Joy. The program, happening January 12 through 14, is completely online and you will have 48 hours to view the materials once you've signed up. Register at Dublin Public Library via email, librarypublicdublin@myfairpoint.net, or call 603-563-8658.

We will be closed in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day on **Monday, January 17**. We will have a display and will celebrate his legacy through StoryTime and Book Buddies that week. We will also revisit and share the 'I Have a Dream' speech in its entirety in the Library and online.

In January we begin the publication of our own email newsletter! An introductory email was sent out in late December, in which we provided the information to opt in and sign up to receive the monthly newsletter. We anticipate promoting our regular Library happenings, special programs and events, new books and materials, lots of photos and images of our spaces, programs, and offerings, and of course, any updates to staff, building, or other important messages. Visit www.dublinnhpubliclibrary.org to sign up if you missed it last month and scroll to the bottom near our contact information.

Dubin Public Library Events/Programs in January

- **Book Buddies:** Every Tuesday 3:30-4:45 pm
- **StoryTime:** Every Wednesday 9:30-10:30 am
- **Lego Club:** Every Thursday 3-5 pm
- **Coffee Hour:** Every Saturday 10 am-12 pm
- **Closed:** January 1, 2022
- **Cookbook Club:** January 20 at 6:30 pm Zoom
- **Spark Joy Webinar:** January 12-14, online (call for link)
- **Mending Circle:** January 10 at 7 pm Zoom
- **Closed:** January 17, 2022 for MLK Jr. Day.



Receiving the award are (L-R) Melanie Kalliosaari, Rachael Lovett, Stacey Clark, Terri Campana. Missing is Ella Cademartori.

This past September we participated in the NH Granite State Library Card Challenge, where libraries across the state engaged in friendly competition for community outreach with library card signups - and we won!

We had the highest percentage of library card signups and our friends at Concord Public Library kindly delivered our trophy last month. We'll keep it on display until the end of the year at the Circulation Desk. Thank you to all our members who have made the Library so vibrant and to our wonderful staff for signing up so many new members.

RACHEL LOVETT is director of the DPL. For details, visit www.dublinnhpubliclibrary.org, or call 603-563-8658.

Take the Library Survey

BY JULIE RIZZO

Dublin residents, the Dublin Public Library wants to hear from you! New programs and events are in the works, and we want to know what *you* want to see at the Library.

Please complete our anonymous 5-minute survey to tell us what you think. There's a survey for adults, another for youth and young adults, and another for children - you can find the links on the Library website at www.dublinnhpubliclibrary.org.

If you need help to complete the survey, come into the Library and a staff member will gladly assist you.

Thank you for your feedback! Your thoughts about the Library matter, and will help us serve the community.

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

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TOWN OF DUBLIN • PUBLIC NOTICE

Filing Period for Town Offices

Residents interested in declaring their candidacy for the following town offices may do so at the Town Clerk's office beginning **Wednesday, January 19, 2022**, and ending on **Friday, January 28, 2022**. For those residents wishing to file for office on **Friday, January 28**, the Town Clerk's office will be open from 3 pm to 5 pm.

Selectman	1 position	3 years
Moderator	1 position	2 years
Supervisor of the Checklist	1 position	6 years
Library Trustee	2 positions	3 years
Water Commissioner	1 position	3 years
Budget Committee	2 positions	3 years
Cemetery Trustee	1 position	3 years
Planning Board	2 positions	3 years
Trustee of Trust Funds	1 position	3 years

— Jeannine Dunne, Town Clerk

JEANNINE DUNNE can be contacted by email at townclerk@townofdublin.org or by calling 603-563-8859. Her address at Town of Dublin is PO Box 62, Dublin, NH 03444; fax 603-563-9221.

All Committee Dates and Minutes on Town Website

For a listing of town meetings including Select Board, Planning Board, Budget Committee, Rec Committee, Cemetery Committee, Recycling Committee, visit TownofDublin.org.

Dublin Recognizes Juneteenth

BY KATE FULLER

The new Federal Holiday, Juneteenth, will be celebrated in Dublin. This important day in American history marks the celebration of the end of slavery in the United States. The Select Board voted unanimously at their December 6 meeting to add this holiday for Town employees.

KATE FULLER is Town Administrator (townadministrator@townofdublin.org) for the Town of Dublin (www.townofdublin.org), PO Box 277, Dublin, NH 03444; 603-563-8544; 603-563-9221-fax.

Ending 68 Hours of Hunger Each Week

Dubliners' generous donations of food and finance are a wonderful support to End 68 Hours of Hunger. What's the impact? This recent feedback from a district teacher sums it up:

"As I'm helping a student place completed work in a backpack, so it can be proudly hung on the refrigerator, this student happily shares, 'Can you put it behind my food? That bag has my favorite mac and cheese, and granola bars! I can't wait to have it!'"

"A smile crosses my face. The very home filled with the school work of a young learner is also filled by community support, support that helps this sweet child learn and grow. One simple End 68 bag helps nourish this little learner, and students across our district. My smile is still on my face as this child heads home, with a backpack full of community."

To help, please leave your food donations at the side entrance to Dublin Community Church, or contact cve68vol@gmail.com.

Thank you all!

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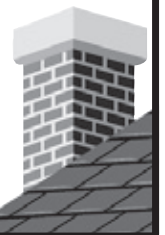
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The Planning Board on Proposed Amendments

The Board will hold a public hearing on **January 6** at 7:30 pm to discuss these proposed amendments, at Town Hall if space permits.

Amend Article IX, E. 2. to provide that if any non-conforming use on a lot ceases for a period of one year or more, any subsequent use on that lot must comply with the provisions of the Land Use Ordinance. The current ordinance allows reactivation of the abandoned use, or establishment of **any other** nonconforming use, to occur with only a Special Exception.

Amend Article XVI, Paragraph G. of the Sign Ordinance to limit Temporary Signs, including political signs, to thirty-two (32) square feet or less, one per lot, and allow them to be erected for a maximum of four (4) weeks.

Amend Article XX, Conservation Subdivision Design to simplify the subdivision process for major subdivisions and allow property owners to use 50% of wetland areas towards the density calculation, so long as the lots created otherwise comply with provisions of the Ordinance.

BY BRUCE SIMPSON

The Planning Board is proposing three amendments to the Zoning Ordinance to be voted on prior to the Town Meeting this March.

1. The first amendment addresses **Article IX, E. 2** of the Land Use Ordinance regarding non-conforming uses (often referred to as “grandfathered” uses), which were established before the townspeople implemented zoning rules which now no longer allow such a use in that location. State law dictates that such a use, once established, has a right to continue after subsequent zoning rules outlaw it. But nearly every NH town has a “use it or lose it clause” stipulating that any nonconforming use that is abandoned for a year is extinguished, and any further use of the property must conform to the current ordinance. But our ordinance reads:

If any non-conforming use ceases for any reason for a period of one year or more, any subsequent use which is non-conforming with the provisions of

this ordinance shall be permitted only by Special Exception of the Board of Adjustment using the criteria established herein for the consideration of Special Exceptions.

This means that any property that once had a nonconforming use that was abandoned (for however long) could replace that use, or establish any other nonconforming use, merely by getting a Special Exception from the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA). The Board proposes to replace the current wording with:

If any non-conforming use ceases for any reason for a period of one year or more, any subsequent use must comply with the provisions of this Ordinance.

2. The second proposal is to revise **Article XVI, G.** of the Sign Ordinance – “Signs Not Requiring a Permit” regarding Temporary Signs, which can include advertisements for events, as well as political signs, to thirty-two (32) square feet or less, one per lot, and allow them to be erected for a maximum of four (4) weeks. The current

rules don’t allow temporary signs over four square feet, and do not define how long a temporary sign can remain up, so the revision would allow bigger temporary signs, but would allow them to remain up for a limited time.

3. The final proposal addresses the Subdivision Ordinance. The amendment would shorten and simplify the Ordinance (which, along with its associated Subdivision Regulations, currently runs some 70 pages) to make it easier to understand, and less onerous and expensive to comply with. As amended, it would still allow conventional subdivision plans based primarily on acreage and road frontage to be used for minor subdivisions, while major subdivisions would still require a cluster plan that permanently conserves half of the total acreage.

It does change the density calculation slightly in that it allows the property owner to use areas with steep slopes, and 50% of wetland areas in calculating the number of building lots allowed on the tract, but would not change the current restrictions on building in wetlands, wetlands buffers, or on steep slopes. As an example, consider a lot in the Rural District (4-acre zoning) containing 22 acres, including 3 acres of wetlands: under current rules: 22 acres - 3 acres = 19 acres for yield calculation/4 acres yields 4 lots; under proposed rules: 22 acres - 3/2 acres = 22.5 acres for yield calculation/4 acres yields 5 lots, so long as the plan complies with our other rules and setbacks.

The full text of the changes is on file with the Town Clerk.

BRUCE SIMPSON is Chair of the Dublin Planning Board. Other members are Steve Baldwin, Vice-Chair; Donna Garner; Allen Hearn; Rick MacMillan; Carole Monroe (Select Board Representative); Caleb Niemela; and Todd Bennett, Kirsten Colantino, and Neil Sandford, Alternates.

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Introduction to the Town Budget Process

BY LISA FOOTE

For those who may be unfamiliar with Dublin's Town Meeting style of local government, voters attending the March meeting consider items on the warrant, usually a series of 20 or so articles. The majority of municipal operating expenditures for the following year are determined by attendees' votes on warrant articles, and those decisions ultimately set a portion of our tax rate. Another portion, the regional school budget, is decided at the ballot box during the local election the previous Tuesday.

The numbers presented in the warrant articles are the result of many months of preparation and deliberation by the town's Budget Committee and the Select Board. Both committees are comprised of individuals elected by Dublin residents.

The Budget Committee plays a crucial role in the town's financial planning. Starting in September the six members, each elected to staggered three-year terms, with a Select Board representative begin meeting weekly to discuss budget requests with department and committee heads. To give a sense of scale, in March 2021, Town Meeting approved a municipal operating budget of just over two million dollars.

Having completed calculations for the operating budget by late fall, the Budget Committee and Select Board focus on the remaining warrant articles with financial ramifications. Most are one-time capital expenditures: for example, the purchase of new equipment for the fire or highway departments.

The funding of these articles can be through taxation, bonding, or transfers

The Dublin Budget Committee is designated as an "Official Budget Committee" and is organized under RSA 32:14, which grants the Committee responsibility for developing the Town budget and monitoring revenues and expenses during the year.

– *Town of Dublin Annual Report*,
for Year ending 2020, p. 42

from town Capital Reserve Funds set aside by votes at previous town meetings. The latter are designed to even out fluctuations in the tax rate. Through January, the Budget Committee and Select Board confer and select the optimum means of funding each article; each group decides on whether to recommend the expenditure in the individual warrant articles.

There are many avenues available to learn more about specific warrant articles to be presented at Town Meeting on **March 12, 2022**.*

Propitiously, the town publishes an annual report that is available in the town offices by the end of February and is distributed at Town Meeting. It contains more than 125 pages of information about Dublin including reports from departments, boards, and committees, an abstract of the results of the previous year's town meeting, and the warrant articles to be discussed in 2022, which includes the budget. Plus, the Dublin Women's Community Club sponsors an annual pre-town meeting and informational gathering where residents can ask questions about the proposed warrant.

*Town Meeting is usually held on the Saturday following the second Tuesday in March, after the vote.

The proposed general municipal operating budget has one column for the Select Board's recommended budget and one column for the Budget Committee's recommended budget.

For more details one can find the minutes of meetings for both the Select Board and the Budget Committee on the town website: TownofDublin.org.

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

Celebrating MLK Jr.

All are invited to this free event; masks required.

Jaffrey-Rindge Celebrating Martin Luther King Jr. will take place at The Park Theatre (19 Main St., Jaffrey) on **Monday, January 17**, from 5 to 6 pm.

Dr. James Waller will deliver the keynote, "Power to Heal: Hope for America's Deeply Divided Society." Dr. Waller is Cohen Professor of Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Keene State College. He is an internationally recognized scholar in conflict studies and resolution.

As part of the MLK Jr. holiday events, Ingalls Memorial Library will present "Ashes to Ashes" (2019), a short documentary focusing on one man's healing after surviving a lynching. It will be held at the Rindge Recreation Department, **Thursday, January 13**, from 6:30 to 8 pm.

Dan Billin will present "Abolitionists of Noyes Academy" at The Park Theatre on **Wednesday, January 19**, 7 pm.

Plans may be subject to change depending on COVID 19 conditions or weather. Visit MLK Celebration Jaffrey-Rindge on Facebook for updates, email jaffrey-rindgemlk@gmail.com, or call Peggy at 603-562-8464.

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Sheila Halvonik, Proprietor

School Board News: A Busy Month

*Annual public hearing for the budget is **Tuesday, January 11.**
The annual Deliberative Session will be **Tuesday, February 8.***

BY ALAN EDELKIND

COVID. The District's COVID Monitoring Team (local citizens who work in medical and public health professions/organizations) is not recommending that the district change the current strategies being used to mitigate the spread of COVID. Although the daily numbers of positive cases reported for students and staff in ConVal schools has been steadily increasing, the Monitoring Team does not see indications of substantial in-school virus transmission that would call for a change in the District's CDC-status level.

Athletics. All high school and middle school interscholastic athletic competition is scheduled for the winter season. The COVID mitigation practices this year do NOT involve masking during competition. Athletics are following a "field of play" rule, where participants do not have to wear masks when they are on the court, mat, slope, etc. When not actually competing or practicing, athletes must wear masks, and spectators will be required to wear masks and distance themselves. This is a big improvement from last year at this time.

Budget. The annual public hearing for the Board to decide what budget figure to put on the March Warrant Article for the 2022-2023 school year will be held on **Tuesday, January 11.** The annual Deliberative Session prior to the public vote will be on **Tuesday, February 8** (snow day: Thursday, February 10).

Budget Presentations. We will be produc-

ing three videos on the budget: 1. Understanding a school budget; 2. The 2022-2023 school budget; and 3. The CVEA contract agreement. Details will be posted on the ConVal website (convalsd.net) and sent by email.

Preschool. Following a presentation about the scope of the district's preschool program and a discussion about the staffing levels and cost of the program, the School Board voted 7-6 to add \$774,000 to the proposed budget for 2022-2023. Adding that amount of money brings the increase of the proposed '22-'23 budget over the '21-'22 budget to just over 2%. The close 7-6 vote does not indicate opposition to a preschool program, but rather a disagreement over whether expanding the program with the full array of support services should be added to the budget at this time.

Consolidation. A motion was made, and approved, to draft a Request for Information (RFI) to be sent to consulting firms seeking a proposal to study the organizational structure of the ConVal district that would conclude with a recommendation for the "ideal configuration" of schools. If an RFI identifies consulting firms that appear competent to produce the kind of study that the Board would find comprehensive and affordable, a formal Request for Proposal (RFP) will follow. I am a member of the group authoring this.

Community Forum. The second community forum will be scheduled for **Tuesday, January 25** at 7 pm. Again, this will be

both in-person and streaming. Participants from both venues will be able to ask questions following presentations.

Details of the Forum and its presentations will be forthcoming. The communications committee (of which I am chair) thanks all for their feedback on our first successful community forum.

ALAN EDELKIND (aedelkind@conval.edu) is Dublin's representative to the ConVal School Board aka SAU1.

Food for Thought

BY SUSAN PETERS

Looking ahead to the New Year, many of us will consider embracing a New Year's resolution. Coming at the tail end of six weeks of holiday food sampling (a gentle word), New Year's resolutions often incorporate aspects of diet and guilt.

For this year, let's all rally together and put any guilt aside. Instead, it's fun to think of embracing the positive aspects of food, with all its healthy and rewarding aspects.

Eating well – and enjoying every step from planning, to preparation, to serving and sharing – is one of life's great rewards. Whether it's making a pot of winter soup or stew, putting together a big pasta dinner, sifting through recipes for a newly acquired Instapot, or baking bread, the options for enjoying food are endless. And food can sure be a great comfort over a long Dublin winter!

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



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Children at DCS get plenty of outside time and a recent snowfall makes sledding very accessible.

News from DCS

BY NICOLE PEASE

Happy New Year! We hope you and your families had a wonderful holiday season and that 2022 is filled with happiness.

December was a busy and wonderful month! Hannah Petrick, Music Teacher in the ConVal District, taught many festive songs to our students. Classroom teachers integrated various holiday celebrations into their instruction to deepen students' understanding of different holiday traditions.

We held the beloved annual Craft Day on the Tuesday before the winter recess. Students were able to make an assortment of festive crafts to be given to family members. We appreciated the support of volunteers who were here to help, with a huge thank you to Vicki Brown for planning and preparing for this event!

Students were thrilled with the snowfall in mid-December; they are sure it was because of our snow dance. DCS has the best sledding hill – making recess such fun! Staff embraced the snowfall and led students on a candy-cane hike through the woods to Yankee Field.

The end of January will bring the start of the Winter Assessments. This will be our midyear check in to see how our students are progressing in Literacy and Math. Teachers will use this information to identify areas of instruction.

It is exciting to see how our students are growing. As we think about the New Year, we are also starting to plan for the next school year. If you know anyone who has a child who will be five years old by August 25, please have them get in touch! Kindergarten screenings traditionally begin in February; more information to follow. DCS is a very special place, made more so by the amazing community in which we live. Please get in touch if you have any questions.

NICOLE PEASE is Teaching Principal at DCS. She can be reached at 603-563-8332.

Community Take-Out Supper Is for Everyone

On Tuesday, January 25, a free Community Take-Out Supper is offered by the Dublin Community Church. Pickup begins at 5:30 pm. The menu will be meatloaf, baked potato, peas, and dessert.

Reservations are necessary. Call Laurie at 603-876-5003 by Friday, January 21, to reserve a meal and give her your phone number. You will get directions when you call.



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Anatomy of a 911 Call

Within seconds of your call, the computer-aided dispatch screen automatically shows your name, street address, and phone number, which the dispatcher will immediately verify with you.

BY RAMONA BRANCH

Have you ever wondered how a 911 call is facilitated? Luckily, 911 is not a familiar experience to most people. If you have called 911, the circumstances and the experience are likely imprinted on your mind. The Emergency Management System, which we know as 911, is a group of highly trained first responders and a boatload of technology that ensures our safety and wellbeing.

When an emergency occurs, your first response should be to call 911. Your 911 call goes to the New Hampshire 911 Bureau of Emergency Communications located in Concord and Laconia. The Bureau of Emergency Communications has a minimum of five telecommunicators on duty at each location 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Their first response to your call is to clarify whether your emergency is a fire, police, or medical emergency.

Fire Mutual Aid, housed in the old quarters of the Keene Fire Department, at 32 Vernon Street, was started in 1958 by Robert Callahan who was a Captain on the Keene Fire Department at the time.

Today's Fire Mutual Aid Chief is Dublin resident Joe Sangermano. Joe started his career as a Dublin firefighter in 1982. In 1988 he was hired by Fire Mutual Aid as a dispatcher. He became the Chief in 2018. The full-time staff includes two deputy chiefs, eight dispatchers and 17 part-time dispatchers.

Fire Mutual Aid also operates a full-time radio shop and up-fitting division (building new police cruisers, command vehicles, and light duty fire trucks). There are two full-time and four part-time technicians between the radio shop and up-fitting.



Fire Mutual Aid Chief Joe Sangermano in Keene's Dispatch Center with MacKenzie Rokes, dispatcher.

Within seconds of your call, their computer-aided dispatch screen will automatically show your name, street address, and phone number, which they will immediately verify with you. If you call from your cell phone, it will show your name and your GPS coordinates.

If your call is a medical emergency, the 911 telecommunicator will ask you basic questions about your condition; if applicable, they may offer very basic instructions to stabilize the situation. All this occurs within seconds. Then the call is transferred to Southwestern NH District Fire Mutual Aid in Keene, where Joe Sangermano, a

life-long Dublin resident, is the Chief of Operations.

The call is received by a Fire Mutual Aid dispatcher with the recorded information on their computer-aided dispatch screen. After verifying the information, the dispatcher pages and texts Dublin Fire Department EMTs and Peterborough Ambulance.

The first responder is usually the Dublin EMTs because they are local and within a few miles of your location. For medical emergencies, 911 will remain on the line until the EMTs arrive on the scene. Peterborough Ambulance is contracted by Dublin to provide emergency medical care and transport of patients to the hospital. Peterborough Ambulance has at least two ambulance crews on call 24 hours a day.

For a fire or police emergency the process is the same to 911 Emergency Communications but is sent to the designated Fire Department or Police dispatchers.

It is good to know our safety is in such capable hands.

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

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Village on a Hill – 20 Years Later

The Dublin history is still popular after two decades.

BY MARY LOFTIS

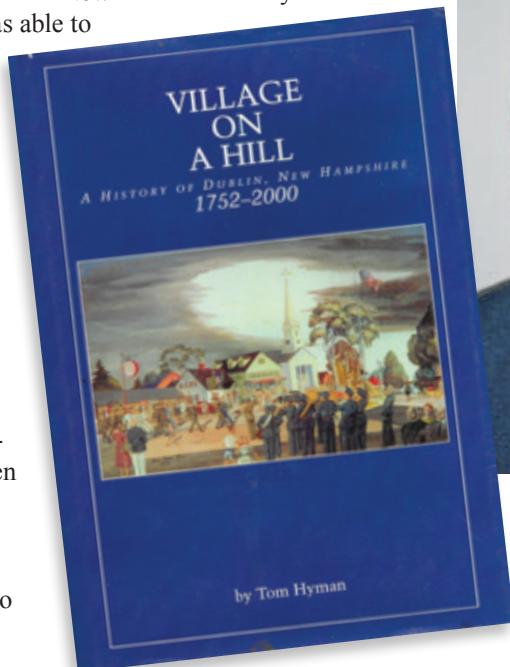
In many ways, Tom Hyman was the perfect person to write the history of the Town of Dublin. He was an insider, having grown up here on Church Street; but he was also an outsider. He had left town to attend Dartmouth College, and his career as a writer and editor had kept him in New York City for decades. So, he was able to write about his hometown with clear eyes – but also with affection and tolerance.

Tom's book, *Village on a Hill*, was published in 2002. As the previous century wound down and the Town made plans to celebrate its 250th birthday, the Board of Selectmen appointed a history book committee.

The original plan was to pick up where two previous town histories, written by early clergymen (Levi Leonard – published 1855 and Josiah Seward – published 1920), had left off, roughly 1917, and to assign different sections to various committee members.

In the preface to *Village on a Hill*, the committee acknowledges advice from Tim Clark, who had written a humorous piece for *Yankee*, entitled "How to Write a Bad History." They key tenets were: 1. write it by committee, 2. don't leave anything out, and 3. don't offend anyone. They followed Tim's advice and hired Tom Hyman – and the rest is history, a lively and readable one, that begins with Dublin's earliest settlers.

The book's chapters have such intriguing titles as "The Furnace Case and Other Burning Issues" and "Bypass Roulette, Post Office Tag." Tom had told the history book committee that he would accept the writing contract only if he could



cover "the good, the bad and the ugly." And he does: juicy controversies and colorful personalities are treated with good humor and just enough tact. For example, we are reminded of the bypass "impasse," and how it pitted neighbor against neighbor; and how in 1967 John McKenna prevailed in a tie vote for selectman with a "cutting of the cards" by the town clerk. And then there are the artists, illustrious

summer visitors, *Yankee*, Granny D, and the Dublin Lake Club.

For some decades in the early 20th century, primary sources were scarce. Tom relied on Elizabeth Pool, whose family had a long history in town, as well as Bill Bauhan, who refounded the Historical Society with John Harris in 1986; and Nancy Campbell, longtime archivist, for

her detailed historical research and knowledge of the community.

In addition to stories of the town and its residents, about half of *Village on a Hill* is comprised of genealogies for 250 Dublin families that had a 30-year or more association with the town. This section is dedicated to the late Ruth Hammond, who worked for years with Nancy Campbell on this extensive and accurate compilation.

The author of six novels and editor at such magazines as *The Saturday Evening Post* and *Life*, Tom is still working as an editor from his home in Peterborough. He said he regularly gets calls from the Toadstool asking for *Village on a Hill*. He calls Nancy Campbell, who keeps a small supply at the Dublin Archives.

It's no wonder people are still asking for this book 20 years after its publication. It's the perfect combination of good storytelling and factual information!

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



Tom Hyman

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Cornucopia Project Continues to Grow

Thanks to its enthusiastic supporters, several of whom are Dublin residents.

BY LAUREN JUDD

The Peterborough-based nonprofit organization, Cornucopia Project, is entering its 16th year of youth hands-on nutrition education. The past year-plus has reflected to us that Cornucopia Project's mission is just as important today as it was when Kin Schilling started gardening with children a decade and a half ago.

Dublin resident and Cornucopia Project Board member, Paul Tuller, says, "Cornucopia takes children outside to prepare soil, plant seeds, nurture seedlings, harvest vegetables, and prepare and taste healthy food. It doesn't get any better than that in providing children with important life lessons."

In 2021, 1,000 local children learned-by-doing through garden, kitchen, and farm education organized by the Cornucopia Project. Schools have embraced outdoor learning with an increased interest during the pandemic and Cornucopia Project has been doing just as much to expand youth access to their fun and inspiring outdoor and at-home programs.

Cornucopia Project has invented creative adaptations to its winning youth programs so children can grow, eat and explore the natural world of edible plants wherever they are. Notably, the Cool Chefs classes, which were formerly offered after school to elementary and middle school students, evolved into a take-home kids'

meal kit during the pandemic. The first edition was a homemade pizza with salad and the second edition was a minestrone-style soup with a fall-themed salad. The kids' meal kits featured local food producers and ingredients grown by high school students at Cornucopia Project's Educational Farm. Moving Cool Chefs to home-kitchens has given families new ways to gather together around healthy food.



DCS students prepare a fresh garden snack this past fall under the watchful gaze of a volunteer.

Cornucopia has been visiting schools to bring healthy cooking throughout the region too. Almost 120 students participated in its cooking demonstrations and healthy snacks during 2021. New Classroom Garden Kits responded to statewide demand from teachers looking to bring classes outside. The Classroom Garden Kits were provided to more than 350 children (K-2) and included everything needed to do the fun and educational garden lessons that Cornucopia Project has been developing for many years.

On the Educational Farm, located across Rte. 202 from ConVal Regional High School, 13 Student Farmers grew produce to fulfill 140 CSA shares. The impressive high schoolers are already planning their next growing season, which starts in late February when the sun affords the high-tunnel crops the chance to size-up in time for the spring CSA.

Students will return to those warm tunnels in early spring to seed around 40,000 plants that are destined for the farm, the students' annual spring plant sale fundraiser, and for local school gardens.

One garden that will benefit from the seedlings is located at Dublin Consolidated School. Cornucopia Project's educators are joined by a Dublin volunteer every spring and fall to enjoy garden classes with the DCS students and teachers.

Dana O'Brien, a Dublin resident and Cornucopia Project Board member says, "Cornucopia is valuable to the fabric of the Dublin Community." Dana, a father, gardener and owner of Brooklands Design, has been an important advisor during the organization's development of the Educational Farm across from ConVal High.

Dana and Paul have both made invaluable contributions to our Educational Farm. Dublin is home to more of Cornucopia Project's excellent board members including Board Treasurer, Nina McIntyre, and Education Committee member, Cindy Thomashow.

LAUREN JUDD, Executive Director of Cornucopia, has been with Cornucopia Project (CornucopiaProject.org) for nearly five years. She has a background in nonprofits, business, and culinary arts.



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The Fire Season Out West and a Local Firefighter

BY RUSTY BASTEDO

PART 1

Not long ago, “climate change” was a phrase that evoked mockery among many Americans. No longer. Studies of US climate records are ongoing; precipitation records going back to 1895 kept by our National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration are under constant review by scholars and the public. Reports on where new infrastructure elements – roads, housing – should be placed have not been studied by decision-makers until the recent past, but as the costs of replacements and repairs to infrastructure rise, these studies are beginning to impact decision-makers.

It is now beginning to be understood that increasing levels of methane, carbon dioxide, and other chemicals in our atmosphere are helping to trap heat emanating naturally from the earth’s surface, and as this heat is trapped, it helps increase naturally generated moisture rising from our waterways and oceans. As moisture levels rise, the jet stream that typically carries air flow across our continent is changing its shapes and formations. Increasing evapora-



A view from Bull Complex Fire in Oregon’s Mount Hood National Forest.

tion from our Great Lakes, Gulf of Mexico, Atlantic and Pacific oceans, is helping to change how water cycles between earth and sky. We are seeing air movements stall over parts of our country, increasing rainfall east of our Rocky Mountains, decreasing rainfall west of the Rockies.

Here in southwestern New Hampshire, *Advocate* readers have experienced several monumental releases of rainfall over the

past several years. Washouts of roadbeds have become a more normal part of our lives; in July 2021 we saw more than 17 inches of rainfall pound our community. In contrast, many parts of the American West are experiencing record drought that is impacting states renowned for Big Agriculture, and causing bans on industrial and residential water use.

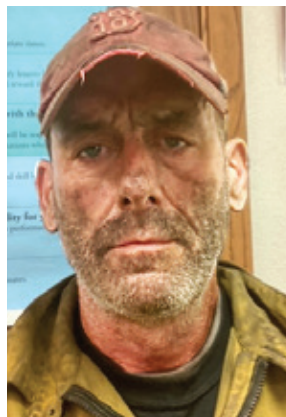
New permits for housing in Monument, Colorado were denied this year unless the builders could guarantee water for hookups – which they could not. And similar changes were underway west of the Rockies. The largest forest fires in the American west used to be 100,000 acres; this past summer, forest fires of one million and more acres were not uncommon. The firefighting “season” used to be a few months each year; now the annual “season” is unending. Forest firefighting teams have been traditionally supplemented by states’ National Guard troops, and by state prisons’ inhabitants, both called into action by states’ governors; and now these traditional supports are inadequate for the tasks.

PART 2

Here in our community, we are fortunate to have a veteran firefighter who has been working in the far west for much of the past several years. Andy Freeman, co-owner of our Dublin General Store, has seen the changes described above become the new definition for firefighting, and his observances are recorded here.

During fire season, Andy works for a private contractor, operating out of Spokane, Washington, on Region 6 fires. The private contractor has a contract with the US Forest Service to build the chassis, build the engines, and provide fire engines and fire equipment required by the USFS. If five miles of 1½” fire hose are needed, as well as any additional supplies, the US Forest Service pulls supplies from regional caches.

The 2021 firefighting season was



Andy Freeman on duty out west.

projected to be two months longer, with a 12-month fire season not far away. Budgets are stressed because of increased fire activity and mitigation, and calls for prescribed fire monies for removal of dangerous levels of burnable materials. Oregon fires are now so many that local caches of equipment are being tapped from Montana (Region 1), and manpower levels (including middle and upper management teams) are at 65% of those projected for 2021; fire incident management teams required are often not available.

During 2021, Washington State has used National Guard troops at 80% of its fires, and hand crews drawn from the state prison system are also a source of labor. National Guard troops receive two days’ training before being sent out. Also, during 2021, Washington State Fish & Wildlife was running prescribed burns in the spring and fall. The US Forest Service has been forced to ease COVID protocols this year, resulting in more outbreaks in camps of 1,000 to 1,500 firefighters, who are all housed in tents. The camps have been retooled, with meals now ‘grab and go,’ packed in Styrofoam containers and handed through truck windows. The designated Food Leader is responsible for feeding 1,500 people/day, and supply chain problems are increasingly a source of concern. Trailers with portable showers are standard, but small fires sometimes have no showers and little hot food, sometimes for days.

Dublin Advocate readers, some of whom are survivors of the Great Ice Storm of 2008, may recall conditions in southwestern New Hampshire: telephone lines that were repaired and then re-broken as ice fell from broken tree branches, roads that were impassable for days as crews worked to clear debris and fallen power lines. And, with climate change, we may also see here winds of 100 mph that are currently decimating parts of Kansas and Colorado, or other phenomena that we are currently not accustomed to.

What is described here is what Andy Freeman is dealing with, in a fire season without end.

RUSTY BASTEDO is on the staff of the *Advocate*.

Gifts & New Clothing for Each Child

Many helped Operation Santa succeed in its 35th year of operation.

BY PEGG MONAHAN

Grand Monadnock Rotary Club GMRC) has finished up its gift distribution to more than 220 children in the Monadnock Region. Each child received gifts of toys and clothing.

The following agencies and schools participated by sending out applications for gifts to families in need: Crotched Mountain, Dublin Consolidated School, Frances-town Elementary, Greenfield Elementary, Town of Greenfield, Hancock Elementary, Peterborough Elementary, South Meadow School, Southern New Hampshire Services, The River Center, Town of Bennington, Town of Peterborough, Temple School, Healthy Starts, Monadnock Family Services, and MAPS Counseling Services.

Employees and members from the following companies and organizations participated by buying gifts. We wholeheartedly thank: NHBB, RiverMead, Monadnock Community Hospital, Data-Axle, ConVal High School, SAU 1, Manhattan East, Millipore, Yankee, SoClean, Delay's Greenfield, Microspec, Scott-

Farrar, Peterborough Library, The Villages, Peoples Bank, and Beepa and Lulu's.

This year marked the 35th year that Rotary led this effort. If your organization is interested in participating, please let the Grand Monadnock Rotary Club know at

www.GrandMonadnockRotary.org. We are always interested in hearing from you about your interest in the community and how to be involved in the important work that Rotary does, both locally as well as internationally.

PEGG MONAHAN is a member of the Grand Monadnock Rotary Club, whose members meet on most Tuesday mornings in Peterborough.

Merged Chambers Announce Peterborough Office

The newly merged Greater Keene & Peterborough Chamber will have a new presence in Peterborough and is looking forward to reaching out to previous members, meet current members, and learn about potential members throughout the region.

Luca Paris, formerly of Luca's Mediterranean Restaurant, is the new President and CEO, and has brought in lots of energy and new ideas. Some of the new programs include Business Spotlight, a 24-minute podcast Luca leads at WKBK that will air in 2022.

Made in Monadnock features local businesses who make their products here in our communities. We have continued with the Business After Hours events and have introduced Chamber at Night, open to everyone in the community to enjoy the services of a local business.

Starting in the New Year, the Greater Keene & Peterborough Chamber will move into the annex of the People's Bank building (Suites 105 and 106) in Peterborough. Luca will be there Wednesdays; and Membership Coordinator Connie Lester will be there on Thursdays and Fridays. If you'd like to talk about membership, please make an appointment so we can be sure to be there.

To contact the Greater Keene & Peterborough Chamber, email info@keenechamber.com or call 603-352-1303.

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January 2022 Events at the DubHub



The Songwriters Group will meet again on January 17.

Coffee and Conversation

Coffee and Conversation continues on Monday and Wednesday mornings (10-12) indoors at the DubHub, with face masks and social distancing. Masks can be lowered while eating or drinking.

Second Cup Club

The DubHub's new coffee chat for men meets on Thursday mornings from 9 to 10:15. There is no agenda and hosts will rotate.

Knit with Nancy on Fridays

Knit with Nancy continues via Zoom every Friday at 10 am. For an invitation, contact Nancy Cayford at npcayford@myfairpoint.net.

Qigong on Wednesdays

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

Red Cross Blood Drive

The Red Cross is having a blood drive at the Hub from 9 am to 2:30 pm on **Saturday, January 8**. Go to <https://www.redcrossblood.org> and search under zip code 03444 or contact the Red Cross.

Herbs for Healthy Joints Class

On **Tuesday, January 11**, Katherine Gekas will offer another herbal remedy class. This time she will discuss

herbs and foods that can help you keep your joints healthy. Each participant will go home with a handout that includes herb information and resources for learning more. The class starts at 7 pm in the South Room. Class is limited to 12, socially distanced and wearing face masks.

Songwriters Group

The DubHub Songwriters Group meets at 7 pm on **Monday, January 17**. Attendance is limited to 12 participants, and face masks are required. This group is open to new and veteran songwriters. To reserve a spot, email host Volkert at the Hub.

Neighbor to Neighbor

"Neighbor to Neighbor" is a Zoom-based series sponsored by the DubHub during the colder months. Guests will be newcomers, Salim and Kara Afshar. The Zoom and livestream session will be at 7 pm on **Thursday, January 20**. (See last



month's interview at www.youtube.com/watch?v=giXjzBYk-hE.)

Open Stage

The next DubHub Open Stage will at 7 pm on **Friday, January 21**. The show will be live-streamed to the DubHub Music Events Facebook page. Anyone wishing to participate, please email the Hub.

Dublin Stories and Poems

Dublin Stories and Poems: An Evening of Spoken Word will be on **Friday, January 28**, at 7 pm and will be dedicated to the memory of Tim Clark, who was originally slated to be in this show. Performers include Paul Tuller, Volkert Volkertsz, Swift Corwin, Gwir Llewellyn Huddleston, Al Brogdon, and Rob Eichler. Audience is limited to 27 and face masks are required. Admission by donation. Please email the Hub to reserve a spot. The show will also be live-streamed.

Changes in DubHub Board

At the December board meeting, new officers elected to the executive board were May Clark, president; Denise Frankoff, vice-president; Mary Loftis, secretary; and Ken Page, treasurer. Leaving the board after many years of service are Susan Stover, Phil Cayford, June Brening, Tom Warren, and Balmeet Lasky. We are thankful for all they've done for the Dublin Community Center.

Pop-up Snow Creation Contest

Open to anyone in Dublin who wants to enter our 2nd annual pop-up snow creation contest, send your contact information (email and phone number) and address (for the judges) either to Balmeet at lasky.balmeet@gmail.com or Volkert at the Hub. The contest will start on the day of the first big snow in the New Year.

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>.

VOLKERT VOLKERSZ is the Program Coordinator at the Dublin Community Center (aka The DubHub), 1123 Main Street, Dublin. For information, call 603-563-8080 or cell 425-308-0091, email info@dublincommunitycenter.org, or visit the new website at dublincommunitycenter.org.

COVID-19 Vaccine Information

FROM DARTMOUTH-HITCHCOCK HEALTH (HITCHCOCK.ORG) (12-17-21)

We're starting this week's newsletter with some sobering statistics.

- On Wednesday, COVID-19 deaths in the United States surpassed 800,000. This is the highest number of deaths among any country in the world.

- More than 1,200 people are dying from COVID-19 daily. New Hampshire currently has the highest per capita rate of deaths in the country.

- Among Americans age 65 and older, COVID-19 is now the third leading cause of death after heart disease and cancer.

According to recent scientific studies, the Omicron variant is more contagious than any prior COVID-19 variant. And experts anticipate that there will be a surge of the Omicron variant in the U.S after the New Year. This variant is so contagious that even among vaccinated individuals, breakthrough cases are expected...

Find out more information about booster shots and upcoming clinics: www.dartmouth-hitchcock.org/covid19/booster-shots

The State of New Hampshire has many options for booster shots including the NH

Mobile Vaccine Van, which takes appointments for anyone to receive vaccines or boosters. To see the current van schedule and locations, visit the NH vaccine website (www.vaccines.nh.gov) and click the "Find the Van" image. Organizations can also request the van to come to your location by clicking the "Book the Van" image.

Get a Ride or Give a Ride

Right down the road, right now, someone needs a ride to somewhere essential. And volunteer drivers for Community Volunteer Transportation Company (CVTC) drive people where they need to go.

When riders can keep their essential appointments, they stay independent, and can live at home in peace. Riders can request to be taken to their doctor or social service appointments, pharmacy or grocery shopping; all non-emergency. Our drivers are courteous and trustworthy, willing to converse and engage. Sometimes even new friendships are made.

Please call CVTC for more information at 1-877-428-2882 x 5.

CASA Offers Virtual Info Session

Many children are at risk, even in rural NH; more volunteers are needed.

CASA of New Hampshire, a nonprofit that trains volunteers to advocate for children who have experienced abuse and neglect, is hosting a virtual information session focused on recruiting new advocates in Keene and the Monadnock Region.

The virtual session will be held on **Wednesday, January 26 at 5:30 pm.** CASA staff members and an active volunteer from the area will answer questions and provide information about the role of an advocate.

Those interested in registering to attend the session can visit the Volunteer menu on the CASA of New Hampshire website and select Virtual Info Sessions.

Approximately 40 CASA volunteer advocates currently serve Keene and Monadnock Region children experiencing abuse and neglect, but more volunteers are needed.

To learn more about CASA of New Hampshire, please visit www.casanh.org.

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The Great Gray Owl

BY TOM WARREN

The largest member of its genus in North America, the Great Gray Owl, sometimes called the Gray Ghost or Old Timber Owl, can reach a height of 33 inches with a wing span of five feet. It is mostly fluff and feathers and weighs 15% less than a Great Horned Owl.

It can be found in Boreal forests in both Old and New Worlds, including Central Asian mountain ranges, like the Ural Mountains.

These owls are often seen during years of "irruption." For birders here, this word means to burst in or invade from the Canadian Boreal forest during periods of scarce food, not because of cold. They can survive in cold 60 degrees below freezing.

According to one history of Dublin, a Great Gray Owl was shot in the late 1800s near the Mountain Brook in a spruce forest high on Mt. Monadnock.

It has unusual hearing and can locate a mouse or vole in deep powder or crusted snow and has been known to plunge through a thick snowy crust and catch a mouse in the darkness of night.



Snowy Owls have already been reported in our area so people out in the snow skiing or hiking should be on the alert for other northern owls like the Great Gray Owl, Hawk Owl and Boreal Owl.

Great Gray Owls are very tame, as shown by the photo of one sitting on a

young woman's head a few years ago in Newport, NH. They see very few people in the mountains of the American and Canadian West, their normal home.

These owls are able to withstand starvation and can lose up to 30% of their normal body weight. They may be unusually weak and unable to move around when this happens. This is when we may see an irruption of these northern owls as a result of lack of food. They will migrate to more southern locations, such as New England, to find food – mice and voles.

The Great Gray Owl often hunts in daylight in winter, preferring cloudy days with snow flurries obscuring the light.

TOM WARREN is Dublin's resident ornithologist.

National Weather Service Winter Storm Warnings

Precautionary/Preparedness Actions...

If you must travel, keep an extra flashlight, food, and water in your vehicle in case of an emergency. The latest road conditions for the state you are calling from can be obtained by calling 5 1 1. (Source: onsolve.com)

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JANUARY 2022 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.

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

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