

The Dublin Advocate

To Encourage and Strengthen Our Community

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Dublin, NH 03444

Revitalizing Dublin's Neighbors-Helping-Neighbors Program

Surveys will be mailed out to all Dublin residents in March or April.

BY RAMONA BRANCH

Out of adversity comes new ideas and ways of solving problems. New Hampshire's unforgettable ice storm of 2008 maxxed out the resources of Dublin's Emergency Management personnel and laid the foundation for the creation of an innovative new program, "Neighbors-Helping-Neighbors."

As those of you who were here in 2008 recall, that storm may have been the ice storm of the century. The loss of power for nearly two weeks and blockage of roads due to collapsing trees threw town operations into a critical state. Dublin's Emergency Management — fire department, police department, and town leaders — were thrust into a dangerous and chaotic situation. The disaster required more services than they could provide.

K Vanderbilt, RN, who is our Deputy Chief / EMS, and Deputy Emergency Management Director, came up with the idea of coordinating residents to help with the workload and assist with the safety and

well-being of their neighbors. The program she recreated is called Neighbors-Helping-Neighbors (NHN) and began with a three-page Community Resource Survey that was mailed out to all households.

The survey was designed to assess what skills residents had that could be utilized during an emergency. Some of the skills included first aid/CPR; food management and preparation; electrical, plumbing, and

residents with medical issues. The fire department was able to set up charging stations, dispense water for people to fill jugs for flushing, and provide a temporary trailer for hot showers.

Tom Vanderbilt, Fire Chief and Emergency Management Director, says, "The implementation of the Neighbors-Helping-Neighbors program played an immense role in helping to maintain security, safety and order for the residents in our town



Dublin's K Vanderbilt, Deputy Emergency Director (at far right), meets with several NHN volunteers on the second floor of the Fire House to update them on new maps, new families, and protocols for Neighbors Helping Neighbors, a program that K developed for Dublin Fire Department's Emergency Management System. (L-R) Ramona Branch, Neil Sanford, Jerry Branch and Susie Vogel

How to Be Informed about a Pending Emergency

Communication is always the most difficult and critical piece of any emergency! Use all forms of electronic communication:

1. Monitor the Dublin Emergency Management Facebook page.
2. Sign up for NH Alerts.
3. Follow Ready.gov to learn how to be prepared in an emergency.
4. Join NextDoor using their app.
5. Monitor the TownofDublin.org website for information.
6. If residents would like, we can work to set up an email group so you can receive information directly!

carpentry skills; medical; firefighting; and ham/CB radio expertise. Residents were also queried on equipment they could provide, i.e., tractor, portable lighting, chain saw, portable generator, front-end loader, and dump truck. The survey also asked what special medical needs residents might have during an emergency.

Twenty percent of the surveys were returned. After tabulating the surveys, several groups were put in place to augment the efforts of the Emergency Management team. These efforts included clearing roads of downed trees, setting up shelters with cots and blankets, and checking on

of Dublin. It was incredibly gratifying to see how Dublin residents came together to help their neighbors and restore our community."

As Deputy Emergency Management Director and coordinator of the Neighbors-Helping-Neighbors program, K Vanderbilt would like to infuse new energy into this key volunteer program. Her goal is to have two residents on every town road to serve as volunteers, with the goal of making sure that the residents on their road are safe during an emergency. To that end, new surveys will be mailed out to residents in March or April.

continued on page 12

Dublin Public Library

BY RACHAEL LOVETT

There's so much to celebrate in February; come into the Library and celebrate with us! Each week there's something new — Groundhog Day, the Super Bowl, Valentine's Day, President's Day, National Freedom Day, and Random Acts of Kindness Week. The entire month we'll celebrate Black History Month with themes of love and kindness throughout. Last but not least, February is National Library Lover's Month!

Last month we had a great first meeting with our new monthly visitor, Snow White the Therapy Dog. The children learned of her story and all about therapy dogs. They were able to snuggle up, give some pats and treats, and ask questions about Snow White and her owner. She joins us again on February 8. Our Book Buddies crew will have selected a few stories to read aloud to Snow White in smaller breakout groups.

Beginning February 2, we'll be moving our Morning Storytime to 10:30-11:30 am. We hope this change will allow a few more families to join us. All are welcome, and stories and crafts are geared towards preschool ages. Groundhog Day will be our first theme at our new time!

Our Cookbook Club has gone to the discussion boards! This way we'll be able to select a recipe and/or book monthly and be able to discuss, post photos, and share our baking and cooking experiences all month long. We'll start a new "discussion" every third Thursday of the month. More details can be found on www.dublinnhpubliclibrary.org.

The Mending Circle is meeting again on Tuesday, February 15, at 7 pm. We are entirely virtual, meeting on Zoom, and you can register on our website to join the meetings. We also hope to have a few guest speakers along the way, so join us to support, engage, and encourage one another.

Please fill out our survey online if you haven't yet done so! It can be accessed from www.dublinnhpubliclibrary.org. It was created by the Library Strategic Planning Committee and we would love to hear what you love about your Library and what programs, thoughts, or ideas you have for future events and improvements.

The Friends of the Dublin Public Library meet virtually every month. We always welcome new members! Please contact the FDPL at Dublin.Library.NH@gmail.com or call 603-831-0851.

RACHAEL LOVETT is Director of the Library.

Plaques Ready for Spring Installation

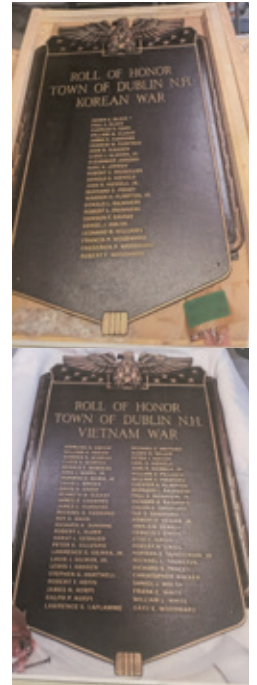
BY BRIAN BARDEN

The Korean and Vietnam war memorial plaques have arrived and will be installed on the front of the Town Hall in the spring. We are planning a dedication around Memorial Day.

Thanks to all who helped on this project. Also, a special thanks to Nancy Campbell, Lisa Foote, Dee Thomas, and Kiki Sangermano for verifying names.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the community for supporting this project. The other committee members are Hank Campbell, Dale Gabel and Wayne Thomas.

BRIAN BARDEN is chair of the veterans who organized this effort.



Rec Committee Needs Volunteers

Did you attend the Christmas Tree Lighting? Would you like to help the Recreation Committee plan events like this for our community? Then come join us and help us develop new fun events for our town. We meet the first Tuesday of the month in the basement of the Town Hall at 8:30 am. or more information, call Karen Niemela 603-860-9011 or Ramona Branch 603-769-7693.

Town of Dublin • Summer Playground Director

The Town of Dublin is seeking a dynamic, responsible individual to run the Dublin Summer Playground program for summer 2022. Dublin's small day camp is held at the Consolidated School and runs for six weeks from late June to early August from 9 am to 3 pm Monday through Friday.

- **Duties** would include, but are not limited to, planning daily activities including various games and crafts, managing staff counselors, purchasing supplies, communicating with parents and working with school staff to ensure building rules and COVID protocols are followed.
- **Must have** high school degree or equivalency, be Certified in Child CPR and First Aid, experience working with grade-school children and physically able to participate in camp activities.

Please submit applications to Kate Fuller at townadministrator@townofdublin.org or mail resume to PO Box 277, Dublin, NH 03444 by March 1, 2022.

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Sterling Abram Appointed Interim Town Moderator

BY MARY LOFTIS

Dublin's Supervisors of the Checklist have appointed Sterling Abram to serve as Interim Town Moderator following the sudden death of Tim Clark in early November. Sterling, a long-time resident of the town, served as Selectman for nine years and was named Dublin's Citizen of the Year at last year's Town Meeting.



Sterling acknowledges that Tim's presence in the role of Moderator "can't be replaced," but he hopes to perpetuate the same calm, orderly and respectful interactions that Tim promoted at the annual business meeting. He said he will rely on the groundwork that Tim supplied to keep the meeting productive and civil in an era of polarization.

Judy Knapp, a member of the Supervisors of the Checklist, said they were "looking for someone who knew the Town, knew the people, had a 'moderator's personality,' didn't have their own agenda, and was well respected by Dubliners. Sterling checked all those boxes. We are indeed fortunate that he has agreed to serve the Town as our Interim Town Moderator."

The Town will elect a permanent Moderator on election day, March 8, but Sterling will run this year's Town Meeting, after which the new Moderator will be sworn in.

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

ARPA Grant for Dublin Improvements

BY KATE FULLER

The Town of Dublin has received funds from the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) in the amount of \$194,913. These funds are restricted in how they can be spent. The Select Board asked department heads what their priority projects and purchases were. Three purchases were prioritized that are within the allowable expenses of the ARPA funds. They are as follows:

The first purchase is for Police Department body and vehicle cameras. The second is to make repairs and updates to the basement of Town Hall for the dual purpose of providing a better meeting space for residents and improving this space to serve as the Town's Warming and Cooling Center. The third purchase will be the replacement of vehicle and handheld radios for the Fire Department; almost all of the current radios are at or near the end of their usable life.

In an effort to control the tax rate, the Select Board chose to make these expensive purchases with the ARPA funds instead of tax dollars. Look for these important improvements in the coming year!

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



Due to the increase in cases of COVID-19 in Cheshire County and Dublin, masks are required in all Town Hall offices until further notice.

Dublin Police Chief Appoints FT Police Officer

Dublin Police Chief Timothy J. Suokko announced the recent promotion of Officer Brandon Blair to the rank of Master Patrolman. Master Patrolman Blair started his full-time career as a police officer in 2016 and was hired by the Dublin Police Department in October of 2019. Over the years, M.P. Blair has completed numerous advanced trainings and has applied that knowledge and skill to his patrol duties.

His dedication to the community is shown through the relationships he has built with the citizens, employees, departments, and organizations that are the fabric of this town.



M.P. Blair (L) accepts a certificate of promotion from Chief Suokko (R).

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Notes & Update on the SAU #1 / ConVal School District Budget

BY ALAN EDELKIND

- The School Board deals mainly with the Operating Budget. The voters are asked to vote on the Gross Budget. The difference is that the Gross Budget includes spending outside the control of the Board. The proposed budget is currently a work in progress.
- The proposed Operating Budget for 2022-2023 is about \$1m more than the '21-'22 budget, which is a 2.1% increase.
- The Gross Budget shows a 3.5% increase.
- The main reason for the modest increase in the need for revenue from local taxpayers is that the revenue from state "adequacy" payments is up nearly 20%.
- When the basic proposed Operating Budget was presented to the Board in November, the Superintendent asked the Board to consider some "add-ons." The Board voted to add about \$967k to the originally proposed budget, bringing it to the current 2.1% increase.

BUDGET ADD-ONS

- The big add-on is \$744k to expand the District's preschool program. As of this writing, this item is still in discussion.
- Other add-ons: \$100k for an additional computer technology position; \$85k for a new High School science teacher position; \$38k for a portion of a High School World Languages position.

FEATURES OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET

- A small decrease in salaries (-\$86k). Though a new collective bargaining agreement with the professional staff union will be on the March ballot and it

increases pay by approximately 3%, this is never calculated into the base budget warrant article; it is always presented as a separate warrant article.

- A substantial decrease in the cost of employee benefits (-\$558k) even given an increase in health insurance premiums.
- A substantial increase in Special Education services (\$588k). An increase of this magnitude is usually associated with tuition payments for out-of-district placements.
- An increase in the transportation contract (and some other "purchased services") of \$235k.
- An increase in software, propane, heating oil, and some other supplies (\$461k).
- An increase in equipment, largely replacement of Chromebooks for students (\$232k).

DISTRICT ASSESSMENT

- The piece of the budget that affects you the most is the District Assessment. This is the amount, after accounting for all other sources of revenue, which the nine towns in the ConVal District must raise to balance the expense and revenue sides of the budget.
- This is the line item on your tax bill labeled "School," a rate per \$1,000 of assessed property value. Property owners in each town are required to pay this assessment. For each town this assessment is different. It is approximately 2/3 of the ConVal operating budget.
- The current change in district assessment is a 1.85% increase from last year. This is subject to change based on the voting on the warrant articles.

THE DISTRICT WARRANT

The District Warrant contains warrant articles that will affect the budget's expense side and will affect the District assessment amount. Your vote on these articles can affect the current projected District assessment of a 1.85% increase. Each item should be analyzed on its own merits for your yes or no vote.

Space doesn't allow for more detail to be presented on the budget. For more information, go to ConValsd.net and look for the information on the budget under the "what's happening" section.

ALAN EDELKIND is up for re-election as Dublin's representative to the ConVal School Board.

Dublin Budget Hearing 2022

February 8 at 7:30 pm, Town Hall, top floor and via Zoom

(Snow date: February 9 at 7:30 pm, Town Hall, top floor and via Zoom)

Voting for Dublin Town Warrant & SAU #1 / ConVal School District Budget

Tuesday, March 8: 8 am to 7 pm
Dublin Town Hall
(elevator in back)

Dublin Town Meeting 2022

Saturday, March 12, 9 am
Dublin Consolidated School

Safety protocols in accordance with CDC Guidelines will be followed.

PART-TIME BOATING/SAILING CLUB SUPERVISOR Do you love boating?

The Dublin Lake Club is looking for a hands-on person to supervise its Sailing Club operations in the summer. The job is part-time and seasonal, including some preparation work in the late spring, a busy period in the summer when the club is open, and some follow-up in the fall.

Responsibilities include making sure all the boats and equipment are in good working order and managing the staff to provide good service to club members and keep things ship-shape. Experience with boating is required, and sailing experience preferred.

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News from DCS

Kindergarteners are wanted.

BY NICOLE PEASE

As I sit to write this article, I am looking out the window at the little bit of snow on the ground. I am thrilled that Mother Nature will work some magic and bring more snow this weekend! There is nothing better than hearing the peals of laughter as our students fly down the sledging hill, or watching groups of students work together to build amazing snow forts.

Please be aware that the first session of the Annual School District Budget Meeting will be held February 8, at 6 pm, at the ConVal Gym. There are many aspects of the budget about which you should be informed, and this is one of the opportunities to gain a deeper understanding.

Our Winter Benchmark Period started at the end of January. This is an exciting time when teachers examine their students' progress halfway through the school year. The information is valuable and will continue to guide the teachers' instruction, especially with small groups of students.

February brings a focus on kindness to DCS. We connect this to our motto of "DCS Cares" by challenging our students to count many different ways we show caring and kindness to each other.

Later in the month we will be traveling to ConVal High School to tour the Applied Technology Center (ATC). This is a wonderful opportunity to learn about the different programs that happen in the high school, from woodworking to engineering to digital photography. It is amazing to see how excited students are about touring the high school.

The month closes out with the February



Miss Emily's reading collection and bathtub in the DCS library. The bookshelf, which is designed to look like a tree, was built as a memorial to her.

break, which we all need in order to rest and rejuvenate after all the goings-on in our special school!

Kindergarteners are wanted. If you know of a child who will be 5 years old

before August 25, please have their parents contact our school.

NICOLE PEASE is the Principal at DCS and HES. She can be reached at 603-563-8332, 603-525-3303, or email npease@conval.edu.

Dublin's Own Preschool and Childcare Center

Located right in our Village Park.

The Dublin Community Preschool & Childcare Center (DCP) is a nonprofit, independent, state-licensed educational center that offers before-school, preschool, after-kindergarten, and after-school care for children ages 6 weeks through 11 years.

Its philosophy is based on developmentally appropriate teaching strategies recommended by the National Association of the Education of Young Children. Its state-credentialed teachers strive to provide a warm, nurturing environment that enhances the children's social, emotional, physical, and intellectual development.

Activities and materials encourage each

child's creative thinking and problem-solving skills. We respect the uniqueness of each child by promoting the acceptance of differences.

All interactions are designed to develop children's self-esteem and encourage positive feelings toward peers as well as toward learning.

DCP, which is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors, offers options for flexible scheduling.

Dublin Community Preschool & Childcare Center is located at 1281C Main Street, Dublin, NH 03444. For information, you can visit www.dublinpreschoolandchildcare.org/home.



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Healthcare Workers: Thank You!

During this challenging time when hospitals are still filling with people ill from COVID, we all thank all healthcare workers, especially if you live in Dublin.

You know who you are, although we may not know you by name. If you would like to send in something, people would like to read about it from you.

Within the last month, journalist Anthony Brooks interviewed Dr. Eric Lasky who works at our hospital in Peterborough; it aired on WBUR: "Inside a

New Hampshire hospital overwhelmed by COVID" (www.wbur.org/news/2021/12/20/covid-cases-overwhelm-new-england-hospitals).

Dubliners are grateful to everyone who works in the healthcare field, and thankful

for all you do to make us well or keep us well.

One ad appearing in the *Monadnock Ledger-Transcript* (1/4/22, p.6) explained the need for everyone to get vaccinated this way:

"Do it for **you**. Do it for **us**. Do it **today**."

Unvaccinated individuals account for nearly all COVID-19 hospitalizations and deaths. As your community hospital, we strongly urge you to get the COVID-19 vaccine as soon as possible. Your life or the life of someone you love may depend upon it. For vaccine info, visit vaccines.gov or call 2-1-1. Monadnock Community Hospital, 452 Old Street Road., Peterborough, NH 03458; monadnockhospital.org."

WMUR Is Tracking the COVID-19 Surge

To be informed about the number of people in Dublin who have COVID, visit: www.wmur.com/article/new-hampshire-covid-cases-map-graph/36731268

You will be asked if you wish to get email updates on the Omicron variant in your community and around the U.S.



Test Your Knowledge of Dublin History

The Dublin Historical Society has written up this list of questions based on Tom Hyman's history "Village on a Hill." Copies are for sale at the Archives. How many can you answer correctly?

- What were the last three sites of the post office before its current location?
- What long-time business occupied the site of what is now AVA?
- When did the Dublin Consolidated School open and what did it replace?
- Where was the Leffingwell Hotel?

- At one time, two places around the oval in the center of town sold gasoline. What were they and what brands were sold? *See answers on p. 13*

The Dublin Historical Society is at 8 Church Street, Dublin, NH 03444. To make appointments during open hours, call 603-563-8545 or email dublinhistory@townofdublin.org.

The DHS Board is comprised of Lucy Shonk, Felicity Pool, Judy Knapp, Donna Garner, Laura Elcoate, Sara Germain, William Katt, and Phil & Ruthie Gammons.



Greg Moore, a local builder, is doing the framing on the new Recycling Building at the Transfer Station. Due to winter conditions, progress will be very deliberate.

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The Simards Love Their Friendly Town

BY JULIE RIZZO

This year, Ray and Dot Simard mark 50 years in their home on Cobb Meadow Road in Dublin. Just up the road from Carr's Store, they love their central location in a town where "the people are friendly, and even the tax collector is great!"

Having grown up in Jaffrey, Dot has always loved small town rural life. Ray, a retired machinist and licensed gunsmith, was raised in a house his father built in south Manchester, in what was then a wooded area with no water or sewer. "I've been hunting and fishing all my life," he recalls.

How did they meet? They both worked at New Hampshire Ball Bearing (NHBB) in Peterborough. "We met at the water bubbler," Dot says mischievously. "I was looking for a different Ray, and met him instead."

It was a lucky mistake — Dot and Ray married in 1958, and lived in Laconia for



nine years while Ray managed a NHBB division in Laconia. They welcomed four daughters, Gina, Marie, Sheryl, and Elena. When Ray's job moved back to NHBB's Peterborough location, they bought the home where they still live.

With the move to Dublin, Dot was busy with family life, sewing and cooking. She took a job in the school lunch program at Dublin Consolidated School. "In those

days, the neighborhood was full of kids!" she recalls. "I used to decorate and prepare for over 100 kids on Halloween."

There aren't as many children around these days, but Dot is still a friendly presence, stepping to the front door to wave and greet anyone walking by. With six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren, the Simard homestead is still lively.

Ray retired from NHBB after 37 years, and has since devoted his attention full-time to Simard's Gunsmithing, the business he operates out of his basement. Ray is licensed to sell, alter, assemble, and make certain parts for guns.

"There are tens of thousands of different types of guns," he explains, "and lots of people who own guns that don't work. I have customers from all over the country, and as far away as Italy, Belgium and Japan — all word of mouth."

Simard's Gunsmithing is truly a family business. Dot does all the administrative work and bookkeeping. At 86, Ray is beginning to think about slowing down.

The family legacy continues however. This year, the Simard's youngest daughter Elena took on the challenge of building a rifle herself. "And she did it!" Ray grins, with more than a hint of pride.

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

Photo by Julie Rizzo

Dubliner Retires from Career Advocating for People with Disabilities

BY MARY LOFTIS

Recently retired from his 26-year tenure as Executive Director of Monadnock Developmental Services (MDS), Alan Greene is still getting used to the idea of a free schedule. He's already had a request to get involved in town government but for now he's declined, opting instead to savor the opportunity to work on his historic house on Old County Road, visit his grown children in New York and Spain, watch YouTube videos on tech subjects that interest him, and take some road trips with his wife Christy (pandemic permitting).

Alan found his career with MDS demanding and rewarding. The mission of the organization is to "provide individuals with developmental and related disabilities the means to live as independently as possible in their community," and he said its evolution was the result of a national

"parallel" civil rights movement focusing on people with disabilities that began in the '70s.

Alan said that when he was in school, there was no Special Education, and children with developmental disabilities were excluded and often confined to institutions. He traces the gradual change to a culture of educational and social inclusion to a landmark court case in Pennsylvania while he was in graduate school studying Developmental Psychology. The Pennhurst State School was ordered to close because it violated its residents' constitutional rights. Thus began a paradigm shift in how the developmen-



tally disabled were educated and included in their communities — and MDS was on the forefront of that shift. The organization currently employs about 300 full and part-time employees and has a \$30 million annual budget.

Alan began work at the organization that MDS eventually split from in 1980 after being a part of the "first generation of special ed teachers" in a local school district. At the end of his long career of advocacy on behalf of the developmentally disabled, Alan is looking back with satisfaction — and ahead with anticipation of seeing more of his family and trying some new things — like attending a Boston Celtics game on a weeknight!

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



Check the Ice First: Thick Ice Needed!

"Thick and blue, tried and true; Thin and crispy, way too risky." – UNKNOWN

BY CHIEF SUOKKO

Remember to always check the ice in several places by making a test hole before venturing out onto it. Ice thickness and strength can vary depending on wind, waves, water current, and thaw cycles.

Always stay clear of open water and remember, 4-6 inches of ice is the minimum recommended for pedestrian use. (See page 9 for more ice info.)

TIMOTHY J. SUOKKO is Chief of Police on the Dublin Police Department, 1122 Main Street, Dublin, NH 03444; 603-563-8411; tsuokko@townofdublin.org.

About Skating Rinks Around Here

BY KIM ALLIS

Keene Ice recommends going to check the calendar at keeneice.com. It seems that there are just a few days of public skating for a couple of hours each day. Perhaps they will list more later. One has to check.

The Peterborough Rec Department (peterboroughnh.myrec.com) manages Cunningham Pond but individual skaters

must manage their own skating as it is not monitored.

Maintenance of the rink on Peterborough's Union Street has been plagued by weather and vandalism. The Peterborough Rec Department will keep on trying to make a nice surface available, weather permitting, in spite of the challenges.

KIM ALLIS is on the staff of the *Advocate*.

Snow Creation Contest is open to anyone in Dublin who wants to enter the Hub's 2nd annual pop-up snow creation contest; just send your contact information and address (for the judges) to info@dublincommunitycenter.org.

Season's Woe Can Be a Joy

This is the time of year for ice. Other than the challenges that accompany walking and driving on it, there are many activities that – when combined with safety precautions – make it just plain fun. There's ice skating, ice boating, ice fishing, even broom hockey from days gone by. There's snowshoeing and snowmobiling and, as shown on last month's *Advocate* cover, Dublin School's Nordic skiing for the snowy slopes. Downhill is possible over at Crotched Mountain, or farther afield if you wish to drive. After a late snowfall, the slopes have been busier than usual, as the season ramps up.



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Photos by Sally Shonk

The ice boats on a frozen Dublin Lake don't get many days like this day on January 12, 2012.

What It Means to Play It Safe on the Ice

According to the state's wildlife document devoted to ice-safety, it's best to follow important guidelines before you venture out onto any frozen pond or lake to ice fish, snowmobile, ski, or snowshoe:

- **It is not advisable to drive vehicles onto the ice.**
- **If on foot, carefully assess ice safety before venturing out by using an ice chisel or auger** to determine ice thickness and condition. Continue to do this as you get further out on to the ice, as ice thickness will not be uniform all over the waterbody.
- Though all ice is potentially dangerous, the U.S. Army Cold Regions Research & Engineering Laboratory in Hanover, NH, offers a "rule of thumb" on ice thickness: **There should be a minimum of 6 inches of hard ice before individual foot travel; and 8 to 10 inches of hard ice for snow machine or All-Terrain Vehicle travel.**
- Remember – **thick ice does not always mean safe ice!** Ice can be thick, but not strong, because of varying weather conditions. Weak ice is formed when warming trends break down ice, then the slushy surface re-freezes.
- **Be especially careful of areas with currents, such as inlets, outlets and spring holes,** where ice can be dangerously thin.
- **Stay off the ice along the shoreline if it is cracked or squishy.** Don't go on the ice during thaws.
- **Watch out for thin, clear or honeycombed ice.** Dark snow and ice may also indicate weak spots.
- **Small bodies of water tend to freeze thicker.** Rivers and lakes are prone to wind, currents and wave action that weaken ice.
- **Don't gather in large groups or drive large vehicles onto the ice.**
- **If you do break through the ice, don't panic.** Move or swim back to where you fell in, where you know the ice was solid. Lay both arms on the unbroken ice and kick hard. This will help lift your body onto the ice. Carry a set of ice picks; they can help you pull yourself out; wear them around your neck or

put them in an easily accessible pocket. Once out of the water, roll away from the hole until you reach solid ice.

- **Ice safety is also very important for snowmobilers.** Don't assume a trail is safe just because it exists; ask about trail conditions at local snowmobile clubs or sporting goods shops before you go.

For further information, go to www.wildlife.state.nh.us/outdoor-recreation/ice-safety.html

Broom Hockey Anyone?

Thanks to a little visit to our local Archives, photos from the town's 1975 Winter Carnival cropped up, with the Dublin Fire Dept playing broom hockey against the Dublin Allstars in the lot in back of the Town Hall.

L-R: Henry Campbell, Jay Jacobs, Thomas LaFortune



Photo courtesy Dublin Archives

February Events at the DubHub

The DubHub is ready to meet the opportunities of the coming year.

Coffee and Conversation

Coffee and Conversation has moved back to Zoom on Monday and Wednesday mornings at 10 am. For updates, check the HubHub newsletter or email info@dublincommunitycenter.org.

Second Cup Club

The new Second Cup Club on Thursdays is on hold until the COVID spike goes down. Meantime, the DubHub is hosting occasional conversations on Zoom.

Knit with Nancy on Fridays

Knit with Nancy continues via Zoom every Friday at 10 am. Contact Nancy Cayford at npcayford@myfairpoint.net for an invitation.

Qigong on Wednesdays

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

Herbs for the Nervous System

On February 8, at 7 pm, Katherine Gekas will offer another herbal-remedy class, this time on herbs and foods that help keep your nervous system healthy. Each participant will go home with herb information and resources, and a sample of a calming tea that we'll make in class together. Class is limited to 12, socially-distanced and wearing face masks. The fee will be sliding scale, pay as you'd like, \$5-\$40. Email katherinegekas2@gmail.com for further details.



Fred Giaimo reads a sonnet at the Holiday show, which he dedicated to the memory of Tim Clark.

Take-Out Community Lunch

The next free Take-Out Community Lunch will be Thursday, February 17, from noon to 1 pm. Drive by the entrance of the DubHub to pick up your meal, or park and come to the main entrance. The menu will be chili (with vegetarian option), cornbread, carrot and celery sticks, and a Valentine dessert surprise!

"Neighbor to Neighbor" Zoom Chat

Each month the DubHub hosts "Neighbor to Neighbor," a Zoom-based conversation between two longtime Dublin residents and two newcomers, at which the community can listen and ask questions. At 7 pm on Thursday, February 17, guests will be announced. Request link from info@dublincommunitycenter.org.

Songwriters Group

The Songwriters Group meets at 7 pm on February 21. Attendance is limited to 12, and face masks are required. This group is open to new and veteran songwriters. For details, email host Volkert Volk-ersz at info@dublincommunitycenter.org.

Open Stage

The next DubHub Open Stage will at 7 pm February 25. All performers and a limited audience will be at the Hub, with the show live-streamed to the DubHub Music Events Facebook page. Anyone wishing to participate or attend may email info@dublincommunitycenter.org. A video of the show will be posted later to the DubHub YouTube page.

Dublin Stories and Poems: An Evening of Spoken Word Postponed (again)

Due to the spike in COVID cases, Dublin Stories and Poems has been postponed yet once again. We will aim for an evening in the Spring.

Newcomers to the Board

In January, the Dublin Community Center board voted in two new members. We are pleased to welcome Maria Finnegan and Teresa Imhoff to the team.

Connect with the DubHub

New members of the Dublin community are invited to sign up for the weekly "HubHub from the DubHub" newsletter at <http://eepurl.com/bLCNTz>.

VOLKERT VOLKERSZ is the Program Coordinator at the DubHub. Contact him via email at info@dublincommunitycenter.org or call 603-563-8080.

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Howe Reservoir and the Dam

BY LISA FOOTE

Howe Reservoir is the highest reservoir in the Minnewawa watershed, the waters of which drain into Marlborough and eventually into the Ashuelot River. It is named for Micah Howe and his son Lambert who owned the sawmill at its southern end (near Route 101) in the mid-19th century. Primarily, surface water from the north face of Mount Monadnock and water from the outlet of Dublin Lake fills the reservoir.

The water collected in it – and in a series of seven other reservoirs in Harrisville – supplied water in all seasons to the



George Foote standing below the dam.

Breed Company hydro plant in Marlborough, which in turn supplied water power to the waterwheels of factories there in the second half of the 19th century.

The dam at the north end of Howe Reservoir is located in the Eliza Adams Gorge, where the first 27-foot high dam

was erected by the Breed Pond Company in 1883.

Little is known about Eliza Adams (1826-1907) whose family homestead lay to the east of Pratt Brook across which the dam was constructed. An easy hike on the Monadnock-Sunapee Greenway Trail accesses the dam.

With the conversion to hydroelectric power in the early 20th century, the ownership of the water rights transferred to electric utility companies.

The Howe Reservoir dam was rebuilt in 1924 and raised to 30 feet in height. A reinforcing, concrete buttress was added on the downstream face in 1990.

Since 1967 the dam has been administered by the NH Department of Environmental Services. They lower the water level behind the dam by 6 feet every fall for the purpose of flood control during spring runoff.

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

Waterways of Dublin

For more information on the flow of water throughout Dublin, one can read a five-part series (that ran in *The Advocate* in 2016-17) on Dublin Waterways. It was written by Tracey-may Kalvaitis when she was a member of the Conservation Commission.

Part 1. September 2016: "Western Waterways of Dublin," p. 7

13 miles of streams and 525 acres of still waters feed Minnewawa Brook.

Part 2. October 2016: "Western Waterways of Dublin," p. 13 Know Howe

Part 3. December 2016: "Brush Brook Basin," p. 6

Part 4. January 2017: "Waterways of Dublin," p. 9

Part 5. March 2017: "Waterways of Dublin," p. 4

Ascentria Care Alliance: Team Monadnock

Members of Project Home in Keene have begun to create a local Neighborhood Support Team (NST) through the New England human-service organization Ascentria Care Alliance to bring Afghan refugees to the Monadnock Region. The group has named our NST "Team Monadnock."

This core team has selected co-leaders and will hold weekly meetings (generally Monday evenings via Zoom at 6:30 pm) to create and build more focused teams for volunteer work needed. This includes fundraising/donations, housing (e.g., in-law apartments, empty buildings without lead), NH benefits assistance (e.g., Medicaid,

SNAP), employment, transportation, ESL tutoring, and transition assistance (e.g., school, shopping, area familiarization, community connection).

There is a grant available to Team Monadnock that will match monetary donations up to \$5,000 received by the end of February.

For more information, including donating or joining a team, go to www.ascentria.org and click on Team Monadnock. As soon as supports are in place, refugees are ready and motivated to move to the Monadnock Region.

We welcome your participation and help in this endeavor.

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Project Home Shares Good News

BY GINNIE GAVRIN

At the beginning of 2021, it was hard for a local group, Project Home, to imagine how their endeavor to provide a safe and supportive setting for asylum seekers awaiting a hearing would evolve. There was a pandemic going on. Complicated legal issues required miles of red tape to resolve. The six sets of families and individuals the group had taken on, hosted in private homes in the Monadnock area, needed support for adapting to a new culture, climate, and language.

With the help of a dedicated corps of volunteers and generous donors, January 2022 is turning out to mark several milestones worth celebrating. Project Home's guests continue to make exciting strides toward integrating into the local community while creating productive and independent lives for themselves and their families.

While awaiting her legal authorization to work, one of Project Home's guests, a single mom of three from Honduras, took up the challenge of learning to drive. The biggest hurdle for the Project's guests has been receiving a Work Authorization, which allows them to both work and get a driver's license. During the former administration, extra layers of legal procedures prolonged the wait for necessary papers to pass. Hopes that a change in administration would speed up the process have been disappointed. Despite this, Project Home guests took steps to be ready to work as soon as their legal status allowed.

Lesson by lesson, with a local volunteer guiding her, Project Home's Honduran

single mom was able to master the necessary skills on the road, as well as to study for and pass the written test.

When her Work Authorization came through just weeks ago, she was ready! With Project Home's help, she has moved forward to secure a job and a car. Her sense of pride in overcoming these challenges is infectious among the volunteers who have supported her with driving lessons, child care, and a welcoming classroom at local schools.



In other good news, Project Home's three Keene High School students are receiving impressive grades and praise from teachers for their enthusiasm and consistent hard work. Volunteer tutors continue to step in and help along the way. The group's guest from Rwanda was able to receive necessary neck surgery that offered relief from pain and allowed him to take on volunteering at the "Y" two days a week, and to advance in his English studies. The group's guest from Mexico successfully completed a welding training course, and he plans to seek work as soon as his Work Authorization comes through.

As Project Home looks ahead to the upcoming year, one of the biggest challenges will be finding affordable housing as the families seek to move toward more independent living situations. To offer help with this issue or to volunteer, interested community members may contact Project Home through www.projecthomenh.org.

GINNIE GAVRIN, who lives in Marlborough, handles publicity for Project Home, an all-volunteer effort based in Keene, with more than 60 volunteers.

Community Take-Out Supper Is for Everyone

On Tuesday, February 22, a free Community Take-Out Supper is offered by the Dublin Community Church. Pickup begins at 5:30 pm. The menu will be chili, corn bread, salad, and dessert. Reservations are necessary. Call Laurie at 603-876-5003 by Friday, February 18, to reserve a meal and give her your phone number. You will get directions when you call.

Neighbors-Helping-Neighbors

continued from page 1

"Between the Fire Department, Police Department, Highway Department, and a handful of longtime volunteers," K explains, "we knew just about everyone in town! We sent someone out periodically, during an emergency event to check on residents who we knew were elderly and lived alone, or a resident who had a particular medical concern. With the Neighbors-Helping-Neighbors volunteer effort, we were able to reach out to our N-H-N volunteers who then, in turn, checked on the neighbors on their road. If they found one of their neighbors in need, they were able to contact us immediately and we would be able to provide the necessary help.

"Once the COVID pandemic calms down," she adds, "it would be nice to have a meeting with the residents who have signed up to volunteer to re-establish connections and re-launch this program."

Editor's Note: This is the third installment in a series on Dublin's Emergency Management System.

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

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Food for Our Children, Then & Now

Back in November 2016, ConVal End 68 Hours of Hunger, in cooperation with SAU#1, sent home weekend bags of peanut butter, soup, crackers, and more with 41 food-insecure children from eight schools in the ConVal School District.

Fast forward to today: we are working with 11 schools and three social-service agencies, and we're feeding nearly 200 students every week. This month we look back on more than five years with pride and gratitude.

- We've filled 41,450 bags of food for children who otherwise might not have had enough to eat in the 68 hours between lunch at school on Friday and breakfast at school on Monday.
- When stigmatization became an issue for the older students, we set up a food pantry at the high school.
- When not everyone could open the canned food, one generous donor provided can openers.
- When grocery-store shelves were nearly bare at the beginning of the pandemic, Program Coordinator Carol Cleary was ready with an account at Sysco; we never ran out of food (though we may have come close).
- When schools went remote, Carol and Program Coordinator Linda Caracappa drafted their husbands, and those four showed up routinely at 5 am to load bags of food onto the Friday buses.

The kids always got fed. That's the pride part. The gratitude is even greater than the pride. None of this would have happened without the ongoing support of the



Every week, volunteer Cathie Runyon delivers to DCS.

ConVal community. In the course of those 5+ years, churches and whole communities have donated more than 55,000 food items. Dublin alone has collected nearly 6,000.

More than 300 individuals have volunteered more than 9,000 hours with the program, handling everything from food shopping to packing the bags to stuffing mailing pieces. Administrative assistants, nurses, and guidance counselors have added to their already overloaded days to get the bags into the hands or backpacks of the kids who need them.

Restaurants have run food drives. And individuals, civic organizations, businesses, and towns have come through time after time – in the early days, often in the nick of time – to replenish our coffers and thus our storeroom shelves.

This program has been a gift of love from the residents of ConVal's eight towns to the children of those towns.

As ConVal End 68 Hours of Hunger continues with its sixth year of serving the local community, we say *thank you*, with all our hearts, to the communities that have supported us from the beginning. And if you'd like to continue the tradition, fruit cups and packages of Ramen are more than welcome at the west-side entrance of the Dublin Community Church.

Energy in the Old Days

The first three paragraphs of Chapter 7 in Henry Darracott Allison's book titled *Dublin Days – Old and New* (p. 93; published 1952), comment on "Electricity, Fire and Water." Mr. Allison, truly Dublin's historian in those early days, explains the developments or lack thereof.



"Dublin was connected by telegraph in 1864; had a telephone office in 1897; Charles Appleton established an electric light plant in 1899, when the town hall, stores, and some private homes were lighted by electricity for the first time. Street lights were introduced in 1900.

The Keene Gas and Electric Company bought the plant in 1911, and, in 1915, a steel tower line was constructed between Keene and Dublin, providing twenty-four hour service, and making it possible to use the local plant as a substation.

There is a volunteer fire company and fire engines in the village, and a considerable number of fire holes, of doubtful value, scattered throughout town, but there is no much-needed public water supply to protect the village and furnish adequate household and drinking water."

ANSWERS TO HISTORY QUIZ FROM DHS, page 6

- Postal service operated out of the grocery store at the site of what is now the Community Center, then at two Yankee buildings before moving "temporarily" in 1978 to the current location.
- Worcester's Garage
- The school opened at its current location in 1916, replacing 10 one-room schoolhouses scattered through the village.
- The Hotel was just up the hill from the Town Library.
- Worcester's Garage sold Esso; the Emerald sold Shell.

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A New Kind of Valentine

Raising puppies nowadays.

BY AMY WILLEY

As our lives have been disrupted in countless ways over the last two years, the pandemic has impacted some pet dogs as well. When organizations closed down, families and people were home more than usual. Students were not going to school, adults were not going to work, and entertainment outside the home was not readily available. So, in addition to spending more time together, some families adopted puppies for fun and companionship! In fact, households acquired puppies at such a high rate that a shortage occurred, and it became difficult to find a puppy to purchase or adopt.

We are often asked about a “pandemic puppy” syndrome and what it means for all those puppies who went home to families when our schedules and routines were more open. As we look at how the pandemic affected maturing puppies, consider that people were home with their puppies all the time, which was great, but puppies also need to learn to be alone. The pandemic didn’t give much opportunity for

puppies to learn the important lesson that when left alone it won’t be for too long!

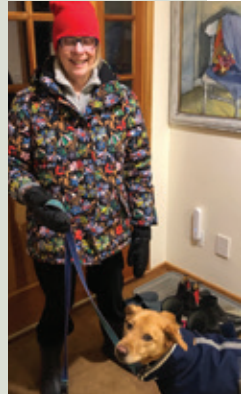
Once the lockdowns started to lift, the lack of exposure for young puppies caused them to be nervous or shy due to the lack of socialization, and some puppies just could not regulate their behavior in a busier environment. Thus, behavioral challenges may have cropped up for owners to deal with.

You might assume that rescues, shelters, and humane societies are full of pandemic puppies that owners have relinquished because of behavior problems. In fact, reports show the puppies and dogs that were surrendered or rehomed during the pandemic did not seem to increase from the usual numbers.

While that comes as good news, if you should find yourself in a position of needing to rehome a dog locally, the Monadnock Humane Society is a great resource for helping dogs find homes. The Humane Society also has a wonderful Animal Safety Net program designed to temporarily house pets when people find themselves in a crisis or unable to provide care.

AMY WILLEY is a co-owner of Everything Dog, which is based in Keene.

My dog Chester and I are about the same age in respective dog and person years; in other words, we are both elderly. So, when it’s under ten degrees on a winter morning, we suit up in many layers each and venture out on a shorter version of our morning walk. Whether it’s the long or shorter walk, it’s just about the same route 365 days a year: up



Pierce Road, right on Windmill Hill – and back. We leave at 7 and are home for breakfast by 8. Neither one of us finds it boring. We anticipate greetings from the same neighborhood dogs, and I wave at the same two people on their way to work. In the summer, I admire the Beans’ beautiful garden; Chester isn’t impressed. These days, we both marvel at all the nighttime wildlife activity that’s recorded on the surface of the snow. Chester sticks his nose in each print until I say, “Enough is enough,” and we walk on. – ML

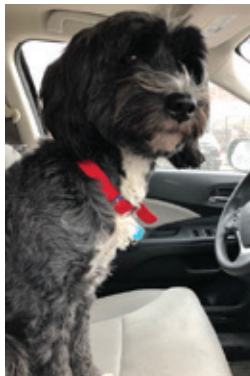
Helpful Links for Dog Owners

A quick video to show how (and why) different breeds react to freezing temps.

weather.com/safety/winter/video/when-is-it-too-cold-to-walk-your-dog

Some helpful tips for dog owners:

www.sogoodly.com/30-essential-life-hacks-that-every-dog-owner-must-learn



Some dogs are high maintenance, others not so much. When we drove to PA to adopt our one-year-old Tibetan Terrier, we did not know we were in for the ride of our lives. That was five years ago, though, and we would not trade her for anything in the world. Rather attentive, loyal but territorial, she barks when other dogs walk by with their owners, which is frequent. Life will be a lot more interesting when she can chase the chipies again. She likes a tidy house – n’er a crumb remains on the floor, she has a couple snuggle stations in each room of the house, and knows by now who her people and other dog friends are. Yes, she has settled in nicely. – MG



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Granite State Dog Recovery: “Never Give Up”

Rescue and/or recover is offered, as well as a shelter in Hooksett.

I recently adopted a 5-ish year-old small dog of Chihuahua and something parentage and as soon as I opened the crate to let her out of the car she zipped off and vanished into the woods. It was 2:30 in the afternoon on November 28.

Luckily someone familiar with Granite State Dog Recovery put me in touch with the chief rescuer, Holly Mokrecki, who told me to set up a crate with food in it in our driveway. After a short argument (“she has never been here before, she’s from San Antonio, why would she come back?”), I complied.

A field camera was set up (courtesy of our neighbor) and sure enough, the little dog was captured on camera, late at night, checking out the situation, and chowing down on the rotisserie



Frida (above) is one of 10,001 recovered by Granite State Dog Recovery since 2004. Nacho is below.



chicken I had put out. Holly came the next day with a dog trap, more chicken, a fancy camera with feed to her cell phone, and disgusting “liquid smoke” soaked rags. Seven days later, to the hour, I got a text from Holly: “We’ve got her!” And there she was, looking pretty terrific, considering there had been below-freezing weather and two snowfalls, not to mention coyotes and whoever else likes to eat small animals.

Granite State Dog Recovery (granitestatedogrecovery.com, 7 Dartmouth Street, Hooksett, NH 03106-1703; 1-855-639-LOST or email Lost@granitestatedogrecovery.com) is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization, started by Holly and “a bunch of women” who rescued their first dog (it took 12 days) in 2004 before starting the nonprofit in 2006.

They have rescued close to 10,000 dogs. Their website has a pretty complete manual on what not to do when you lose your dog, and what to do. Needless to say, I highly recommend checking it out; they know what of they speak! – KA

These two love exploring Dublin’s trails and roads, helping ensure everyone in the family gets some exercise. They’re still working on their manners around other dogs. – SP



Tessa Mae is our sixth English Springer Spaniel. I guess you could say we are brand loyal. Tessa’s extraordinary sense of hearing and smell alert us – constantly! – to things we never knew existed. – DF

Adopting Animals at the Humane Society

Although the Monadnock Humane Society (MHS) in Swanzey is currently closed due to COVID, adoptions of animals housed there can be handled by making an appointment. To see pets up for adoption, visit www.monadnockhumanesociety.org, and click the ADOPT button at the top of the page. Additional information on available animals will be offered by phone.

To meet one of the animals, call 603-352-9011 x 101 — or email adoption@humanecommunity.org.

One can also sign up for newsletters at the MHS website.



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NH Audubon Needs Your Help on Statewide Bird Survey

It's so important to have reports coming in from around the state.

Have fun helping NH Audubon count birds when you take part in the annual Backyard Winter Bird Survey on Saturday, February 12, and Sunday, February 13. Biologists need assistance from citizens all over the Granite State to get a clear picture of what is happening with our winter birds.

Anecdotal reports indicate that there are fewer birds at feeders compared to last winter. Last winter there was a "super flight" of winter finches – northern birds like Pine Siskins or Common Redpolls, that come south in years with poor northern food crops. Last winter the huge White Pine cone crop in southern New Hampshire also attracted record numbers of Red-breasted Nuthatches. These winter food supplies are better to the north and

NH Audubon biologists will be watching to see if any northern visitors appear on the Survey.

Biologists will also be following the ongoing rise in southern species that have extended their range northward. The Survey was originally started to monitor two of these species, the Northern Cardinal and Tufted Titmouse, both of which hit record highs on the 2021 Survey.

Two other southern invaders, the Carolina Wren and Red-bellied Woodpecker, both increased in 2021. Cold winter temperatures can impact these species and the Survey data can tell biologists if that happens.

NH Audubon (84 Silk Farm Road, Concord, NH 03301) is a nonprofit dedicated to

the protection of New Hampshire's natural environment for wildlife and for people. For information, call 603-224-9909, or visit www.nhaudubon.org.

Eastern Bluebird has been increasing dramatically on NH Audubon's annual Backyard Winter Bird Survey.



Photo by Rebecca Suomalainen

You can help NH Audubon track all our winter feeder birds.

All New Hampshire residents can participate in the Survey by counting the birds in their own backyard on February 12 & 13 and reporting online or sending the results on a special reporting form to NH Audubon.

To receive a copy of the reporting form and complete instructions, e-mail your name and address to bwbs@nhaudubon.org or call 603-224-9909. Forms are also available online at nhbirdrecords.org/backyard-winter-bird-survey.

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Report from a Birdwatcher

BY JOHN RANTA

On December 18 our team of approximately 30 volunteers ventured out to count birds for the Audubon Christmas Bird Count (CBC). We covered a 15-mile circle that includes Greenfield, Bennington, Hancock, Harrisville, Dublin, Jaffrey and Peterborough.

Our team has been counting birds for the CBC in this circle for about 50 years. Other Audubon teams count birds in their selected circles all over North America.

We go out for just one day, sometime during the period from 10 days before Christmas to 10 days after, and count every bird we see. The data is then compiled and added to the Audubon database. The data are used to track trends in bird populations and bird behavior over the years. There can be quite a bit of variance in our count numbers from year to year, due to weather conditions and changes in food supply here and up north.

This year we counted 51 species on

Saturday, plus two count week species, which are recorded but not included in the official CBC one-day numbers because we did not spot them on Saturday. On Saturday we tallied 4,953 birds. Those counts of 51 species and approximately 5,000 birds are both a little higher than our averages over 50 years, perhaps due to the relatively mild weather we've had over the past month or two.

What we found noteworthy follows.

1. We set records this year for numbers of bluebirds, pileated woodpeckers, Carolina wrens, winter wrens, belted kingfishers, saw-whet owls, and starlings. We recorded our second highest tallies ever for tufted titmouse, Cooper's hawks, and rock pigeons.
2. There was a report of a Lincoln Sparrow in Jaffrey, on Sunday. This is the first-ever report of a Lincoln Sparrow for our CBC week.
3. We had our second-ever record of a CBC bufflehead, which tied for the highest ever tallied.

4. Our waterfowl numbers were higher than in the past few years because ponds and lakes had a lot of open water.

All in all, it was a good year for us (and not bad for the birds).

JOHN RANTA is an amateur bird watcher and a volunteer for the Christmas Bird Count, a CBC Compiler for NH Audubon.

Can you see what this Barred Owl is taking home for a meal?



Photo by a neighbor

Highlights from the 2021 Hawk Watch

In the fall of 2021, the Harris Center's Pack Monadnock Raptor Observatory (harriscenter.org/conservation-research/pack-monadnock-raptor-observatory) staff and volunteers tallied an impressive 9,605 migrating raptors and shared the wonder of migration with a record 6,500 human visitors, including 351 students from 12 different schools.

Black Vultures – a southerly species that has slowly been expanding the northern edge of its range – were seen from the Observatory for the very first time, and

record-high counts were documented for Turkey Vultures (641), Bald Eagles (227), and Red-shouldered Hawks (223).

For more detailed info, including a complete list of bird species recorded at the Observatory in 2021 and raptor population trend analyses, find our newly released final report from the 2021 Hawk Watch (harriscenter.org).

Information gleaned from the Harris Center for Conservation Education, 83 King's Highway, Hancock, NH 03449; 603-525-3394.

Let's Keep Our Community Healthy

from Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health

Recent days have seen a dramatic increase in cases of COVID-19 in our communities. Our hospitals are seeing record-high numbers of COVID-19 patients admitted for care. Thank you for your support, your patience and your kindness during these challenging times.

You can visit [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov) to find a COVID-19 vaccine and booster location near you.

Send your cat stories with a photo to DublinAdvocate@gmail.com for a future issue!

everything
DOG

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Denise Mazzola, CPDT-KA 603-499-6207

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New Funding to Help Wood Turtles in NH, VT & MA

Healthy rivers support healthy economies.

The Connecticut River Conservancy (CRC) has received a new grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) that will help protect native turtles. The grant will fund landowner outreach by CRC and wood turtle site assessment by project partner, The Orianne Society (TOS).

Wood Turtles (*Glyptemys insculpta*), primarily found in river floodplains, and Spotted Turtles (*Clemmys guttata*) are the special focus of this project. Wood Turtles are considered a Species of Conservation Concern in the three states where CRC will focus outreach efforts. These turtles have suffered declines due to illegal collecting, develop-

ment, agriculture, and stream alterations. CRC and TOS will work with federal and state agency partners in New Hampshire, Vermont, and Massachusetts to find willing landowners and sites that will lead to improving working lands, water quality, and wood turtle habitat in the Connecticut River watershed.



“Wood and Spotted Turtles thrive in environments with clean water, but they need space to roam on land as well, so improving habitat connectivity between land and water benefits them greatly. This not only helps rare turtles, but also creates habitat for other fish and wildlife, cleanses the water, and improves recreational opportunities. Farm Bill conservation programs also promote agricultural sustainability.

Reptiles and amphibians have an incredible value and play integral roles in the function of healthy ecosystems. The Orianne Society works to conserve critical ecosystems for imperiled reptiles and amphibians using science, applied conservation, and education.

To learn more about Wood and Spotted Turtles, visit The Orianne Society at www.orianne.org.

To learn more about CRC, or to make a contribution to help protect rivers and local wildlife, visit www.ctriver.org.



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The Northern Goshawk and the Cooper's Hawk

BY TOM WARREN

A handsome, brave, fierce and powerful hawk, the Northern Goshawk's attack on birds at feeders is swift and deadly and sometimes tears out half of its prey's body.

Every year in November and December Goshawks appear from their northern habitat – although in Dublin it is a year-round resident. Sometimes they appear in large numbers coincidental with the scarcity of snowshoe hares or white rabbits in the north. Famous invasions occurred in 1896-1897, 1906-1907, and 1916-1918 and have occurred in 10-year intervals ever since.

These great flights consist of adult birds. Scientists speculate that in years of low food supply of grouse and rabbits, the adult Goshawks do not nest and therefore, raise no young.

The females can be quite ferocious around the nest and they have been known to enter a kitchen here in Dublin while chasing a chicken. One observer reported that a female was so vicious it had to be shot. The male then attacked the rifleman, "snatched his cap from his head and tore his cotton shirt into shreds."



Northern Goshawk

Fierce battles between Barred Owls and Goshawks have been known to occur. A farmer in Quebec found a disturbed area of bloody snow and nearby the bodies of both a Goshawk and a Barred Owl.

Goshawks decapitate rabbits as if they had been cut with a surgical scalpel. I have often found victims on trails here in Dublin. Birds are usually plucked. They also prefer red and gray squirrels, weasels, and

mice as well as birds at feeders, especially during snowstorms.

The Cooper's Hawk is another raptor often seen at birdfeeders picking off smaller birds like finches and woodpeckers, but it will strike larger birds like blue jays. The Cooper's Hawk is a forest rover, using its short wings and long tail to easily move through the coniferous forest and using its powers of flight to capture birds.

TOM WARREN is Dublin's resident ornithologist

Issues related to parking near the Pumpelly trailhead have been addressed.



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FEBRUARY 2022 Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 TH Dublin Recreation Comm. 8:30am; DPL Book Buddies, 3:30-4:45pm	2 HUB/Zoom Coffee & Conversation 10-11am; HUB Qigong 12-1pm; DPL StoryTime 10:30-11:30am	3 DPL Lego Club 3-5pm	4 HUB/Zoom Knit with Nancy 10-11am	5 DPL Coffee Hour 10am-12pm
6	7 TH Cemetery Trustees if <35°, or at cemetery if >35°, 9am; HUB/Zoom Coffee & Conversation 10-11am	8 DPL Book Buddies 3:30pm; Therapy Dog 4pm; CVHS gym, Sch. Dist. Mtg. * 6pm; HUB Herbal Class 7pm; TH 2022 Town Budget Hearing* 7:30pm, Zoom option; *if snow: 2/9	9 HUB/Zoom Coffee & Conversation 10-11am; HUB Qigong 12-1pm; DPL StoryTime 10:30-11:30am; Board of Trustees 7pm	10 DPL Lego Club 3-5pm	11 HUB/Zoom Knit with Nancy 10-11am	12 DPL Coffee Hour 10am-12pm; NH Audubon Bird Count, Backyard Winter Bird Survey
13 NH Audubon Bird Count, Backyard Winter Bird Survey	14 HUB/Zoom Coffee & Conversation 10-11am; DPL/Zoom Mending Circle 7pm	15 DPL Book Buddies 3:30-4:45pm	16 HUB/Zoom , Coffee & Conversation 10-11am; HUB Qigong 12-1pm; DPL StoryTime 10:30-11:30am; TH Dublin Conservation Commission 5pm	17 HUB Take-Out Community Lunch 12-1pm; DPL Lego Club 3-5pm; DPL/Zoom Cookbook Club 6:30pm; HUB/Zoom Neighbor to Neighbor Chat 7-8pm	18 HUB/Zoom Knit with Nancy 10-11am	19 DPL Coffee Hour 10am-12pm
20	21 DPL Closed HUB/Zoom Coffee & Conversation 10-11am; Songwriters Group 7pm	22 DPL Book Buddies 3:30-4:45pm; DCC Community Supper 5:30pm	23 HUB/Zoom Coffee & Conversation 10-11am; HUB Qigong 12-1pm; DPL StoryTime 10:30-11:30am	24 DPL Lego Club 3-5pm	25 HUB/Zoom Knit with Nancy 10-11am; Open Stage 7pm	26 DPL Coffee Hour 10am-12pm; TH Supervisors of the Checklist 11-11:30am
27	28 HUB/Zoom Coffee & Conversation 10-11am			CVHS ConVal High School BOS Board of Selectmen DCC Dublin Community Church DCS Dublin Consolidated School DPL Dublin Public Library	DS Dublin School HUB Dublin Community Center TH Town Hall, Dublin	

THE DUBLIN ADVOCATE may be found online and in color at **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**.

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

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The Dublin Advocate

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