

The Dublin Advocate

To Encourage and Strengthen Our Community

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Aggie Macy Traces Historic Trail in Greenland

Aggie Macy grew up in Dublin and graduated from Dublin School. She has spent part of her summer in Greenland conducting research for Bowdoin College's Perry-MacMillan Arctic Museum. Bowdoin students and faculty began traveling north to study Arctic cultures and environments in 1860. Aggie received a fellowship to follow the footsteps of Donald MacMillan (class of 1898), an early Arctic explorer, and create an interactive exhibit of the map MacMillan drew during an Arctic winter. Her research involved physical challenge and hard work. But with her friend and fellow researcher Caleb Jordan-McDaniels, she found joy and adventure in Greenland as well. Here are some of her posts and photographs:



Photos courtesy of Aggie Macy

BY AGNES MACY

HELLO FROM ILULISSAT, GREENLAND!

Caleb and I arrived at 10:30 pm on June 5, where the adventure properly began. When we got to the Ilulissat airport, basically one big room, we were surprised that there was no customs and nowhere we needed to show our passports. We slung our backpacks onto our backs, mine clock-



ing in at a bit above 40 pounds. We walked right from the airport to find a spot to camp that was nearby and not too snowy. We cuddled up in our sleeping bags (28 degrees outside) and didn't wake up until 11 am the next day!

QEQTARSUAQ, DISKO ISLAND

We just took the ferry over here from Ilulissat. It was a small boat with seats for 12 passengers. On the crossing, we dodged icebergs from the Icefjord and slowly watched the colorful houses of Ilulissat fade into the mountainous landscape.

We became very close with Andreas, the museum director, while we were in Ilulissat. He is an incredible man with so much knowledge about the area. I have a feeling I'll see him again. Even with just nine days so far in Greenland, I'm already drawn to this area and hope to continue research here.

Andreas was very kind to take Caleb and me out to dinner with Andy Chase, former captain of the schooner *Bowdoin*. We went to the Inuit Cafe in town and were urged to order the musk ox and whale steaks! Andy sailed to Greenland in 1991 and is returning this summer to connect with people prior to the *Bowdoin's* return to Greenland next summer. Caleb and I already have dreams of sailing up here with them.

AASIAAT

I took the ferry here this morning from Qeqertarsuaq, where we stayed for six days. Our time in Disko was lovely. Camping in the snow ended up being no problem, and we stayed warm enough at night. We were given a friendly welcome by everyone in town, and the Disko Hotel was happy to have us use their sitting area when we wanted to be inside. We discovered that the school gym would allow us to take showers there, so we bought some shampoo and enjoyed that luxury a few times.

Our first morning in town, we went to the museum. We became close with Lars, the assistant working there. When it was closing time, he offered to spend the afternoon with us. One of our adventures involved snowshoeing to find the shipwreck of the *S.S. Fox*. By looking at the archival pictures Macmillan took in 1926 and talking to locals, we were able to find it! Anyone who knows me well knows that this sort of thing fascinates me.

HELLO FROM SISIMIUT!

The summer solstice was Greenland's National Day, so there were some festivities in town. I met with a local, Adam,

continued on page 12

News from the Dublin Public Library

BY RACHAEL LOVETT

Summer seems to have flown by as we enter August and finish up our Summer Reading Programs. Continue to log your reading and earn those raffle tickets all the way up to August 17. Our Summer Send-Off Party is on August 19 from 10–11 am with karaoke, ice cream, and, of course, a celebration of our Summer Reading winners! A raffle winner in each age group will be drawn, and the winner will be notified. Winners receive gift baskets filled with some wonderful local gifts and reading supplies!

We also have two great programs happening in August: a visit from the Caterpillar Lab and mandala rock painting. The Caterpillar Lab of Marlborough will be visiting the library on August 14 at 10 am. They will have a short educational and interactive presentation, and a few caterpillars will be visiting, too. This family-friendly program for all ages will be held in the Program Room.

On Saturday, August 26, from 10 am–noon, we'll have a beginner's workshop on mandala rock painting. Conducted by yours truly, we'll have paint, rocks, and tools to create beautiful and relaxing works of art. This class is for all skill levels, ages 13 and up. Please register in advance on the website, www.dublinNHpubliclibrary.org.

You are invited to the
Annual Ice Cream Social
 hosted by the Friends of the Dublin Public Library,
 on **Saturday, July 29, 4–6 pm**, at the library.
 Music by the Cheshiremen.



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A Special Dublin Public Library

Appreciation Event

for the donors of the Art Restoration Project will be held
Sunday, August 13, 4–6 pm, in the Program Room.
 There will be an explanation of the work done and a tour
 of the art. All town residents are invited to attend. Light
 refreshments will be served.

Finally, we have a few new faces at the library. For the summer months, we have a new custodian, Josiah Weekley. You may see him walking around the building and helping with the maintenance of our wonderful, historic space. We also have a new Children's Services and Programming Library Assistant, Dominique Wheeler. Dominique is a long-time local resident, and she is full of energy and great ideas for upcoming children's programming. Stop in to say hello – and join us in welcoming our new team members!

RACHAEL LOVETT is the director of the Dublin Public Library.

The Monadnock Summer Lyceum lectures are presented
 Sundays at 11 am at the Peterborough Unitarian Church,
 continuing through August.

Sunday, August 6 Sumner Lopez *The Freedom to Read:
 Why Banning Books Is a Threat to Democracy*

Sunday, August 13 Penelope (Penny) Muse Abernathy
Can Our Democracy Thrive Without Local Journalism?

Sunday, August 20 Hernan Romero *Gets Personal:
 The Importance of Music in People's Lives*

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Public Hearing to Discuss Cheshire Community Power

BY SUSAN PETERS

Please join the Dublin Select Board, Energy Committee, and fellow residents for a public hearing to discuss the Cheshire County Community Power Plan. The meeting will begin at 7 pm on Wednesday, August 2, in the basement of Town Hall. Henry Herndon, consultant to the Community Power Coalition of NH (CPCNH), will be on hand to explain how the plan will work.

Cities and towns in Cheshire County may choose, by vote of their Select Board or City Council, to opt into the plan. The County and participating communities will source their electricity supply through a collective buying program with CPCNH. There will be no change to how electricity is distributed. Participating communities may appoint a representative to the Cheshire Community Power Governance Council to support joint oversight of the program.

As CPCNH explains on their website (communitypowernh.gov/faqs), community power creates more choices for customers, the collective buying power to drive down cost, and the local control to allow New Hampshire communities to chart their own energy futures.

Cheshire Community Power is scheduled to launch as early as September 20, 2023. Representatives from a number of area communities expressed interest at an

informational meeting hosted by Cheshire County in May. On May 31, the Nelson Select Board voted unanimously to opt into Cheshire Community Power, with plans to be included in the initial launch. Towns are committing to a three-year contract, but individual customers may choose to opt out.

In communities that opt into joining, current Eversource customers would be automatically enrolled with the choice to opt out without fee or cost. These customers could begin receiving their electricity supply through the county plan as early as September 20 unless they opt out or source electricity through their own solar panels.

Businesses and residents currently enrolled with third-party energy suppliers would not be automatically enrolled but may choose to opt in.

There are timing considerations, and a town must decide to join and be accepted by Cheshire County at least 30 days in advance of the launch. To make the earliest launch, Dublin would need to join with the county prior to August 21. If Dublin does not participate in the initial launch, there will be future opportunities to join.

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



Photo by Mary Loftis

Every Wednesday morning, participants in Summer Playground walk up the big hill with their counselors for an activity at the library.

Liam Matthew Kelly
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News from the Conval School District

BY ALAN EDELKIND

Here is an update on the Consolidation/Reconfiguration project at the ConVal School District:

The goal is to determine an educationally rich, safe, socially responsive, community sensitive, financially responsible, and organizationally sound physical model for our ConVal community and students. The key to this process will be community engagement. We will include community members, parents, students, select board members, school board members, ConVal District administration, teachers, and staff.

To organize a project of this importance, the school board has formed the Strategic Organization Committee (SOC) whose initial responsibility has been to engage an outside consulting organization with experience and knowledge in this field. We believe this project requires unbiased expertise that can come only from an outside firm.

We went through a formal RFI and RFP (Request for Information and Request for Proposal) process, which led us to interview three companies and ultimately select one. We now have a formal signed contract with Prismatic Services Corporation from Charlotte, North Carolina. Prismatic has the right experience for this project and is dedicated to working in the school environment. Our first formal meeting with this company is scheduled for July 18 (after this article is written but before the publication date). The main area of discussion will be organization. We will lay out schedules of activities, areas of engagement, responsibilities, and work to be accomplished.

We will be communicating the outcome of this meeting to all involved parties. Obviously, community forums and engagement will be a prime endeavor in this project, and we want to hear from everyone. We do not begin this work with a preconceived notion of what, if anything, should change. Instead, we proceed with open minds, fulfilling our mandate to provide the best environment for our students and community. Involvement of stakeholders requires a large amount of time on everyone's part, but the outcome, whatever it is, will be worth the extra time and effort. Do we consolidate some of our schools due to decreasing enrollment? Which ones? If we reconfigure, how will we do that? What other options are available to us? Remember, we all have a stake in the outcome, so please participate.

ALAN EDELKIND is Dublin's representative on the ConVal School Board.



Photo by Kim Allis

Dublin Consolidated School has a new/old principal: Nicole Pease will be returning after a year teaching at South Meadow School. Now she is back in Dublin, leading the school she attended as a child. She and her husband Greg, a contractor, and her son Zach, a senior at ConVal, live in Dublin in a house they built in 2000. Nicole was born in Peterborough and has lived all her life in Dublin. Welcome back!

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Memories of Dublin's Bicentennial

BY RUSTY BASTEDO

Dublin celebrated its 200th birthday over four days in August, 1952. All four days were sunny and hot. "Ideal Weather Favors Exercise," the *Peterborough Transcript* said – with Dublin School's Memorial Field being the principal site for the final day's activities. A parade featuring more than 30 floats, an art show, and many other events led up to the final day, and fireworks at Dublin Lake, followed by a square dance held at the oval, were the bicentennial celebration's final events.

This description of the final day is recalled by one who was there. The day started with a baseball game. This reporter played first base, because he was left-handed and because he had a new baseball mitt signed by Earl Torgeson of the Boston Braves. Mr. Lehmann, head of Dublin School, was the catcher for both sides, and he caught the first baseman unawares with a forceful throw that hit its target just under the chin, and against which Earl Torgeson provided no defense.

The game ended shortly thereafter. We baseball players surrendered to the summer heat and headed for the lake, missing a day of singing hymns arranged for the 18th Army Band from Fort Devens, and for voice, by Elliot S. Allison. The 18th Army Band also played a concert during the hour-long lunch break. In the summer heat, it must have been a tough day for the band!

Following lunch, there were brief speeches by state and national political figures and greetings read from the Lord Mayor of Dublin, Ireland, and from the mayors of other Dublins, located in Georgia, Mississippi, Indiana, Texas, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and North Carolina. Overflights of jets led by Dublin's General James Cuddihee, a hero of World War II, interrupted speeches from time to time. The lowering of the flag followed, and "Taps" and the "National Anthem" were played.

Meanwhile, at Dublin Lake, a flotilla of canoes was being prepared for the fireworks, set to sail from Loon Point to the Lake Club, with Japanese lanterns suspended between broom handles in the front and stern of each canoe. (This reporter and his brother

set off a two-shot bomb firework that tipped over in the aluminum canoe and exploded, leaving a sizeable dent. We had imported the fireworks illegally from South Dakota.)

Down in town, Ralph Page, the Decca Records King of Square Dance, was setting up to play from the steps of the Dublin Congregational (now Community) Church, with couples coming from as far away as Portsmouth. Square dancing was a widespread mania in the '50s, and towns in the Monadnock Region shared the enthusiasm, organizing town halls for weekend dances. People drove for hours to hear good callers and good bands, and they came to Dublin that night to dance under the lights around the oval, with floodlights on the church steps. In 1952, New Hampshire's only east-west highway was Route 101. Because of the dance, Dublin's share of the newly formed Interstate Highway System was closed to traffic at Carr's Store/Bond's Corner and at The Eskimo/Audrey's on the Marlborough line. This reporter can picture the trucks and cars of that era careening through Harrisville while the band played on.

The *Transcript* reported that the \$700 cost of the long celebration was worth the extravagant cost once every 100 years.

RUSTY BASTEDO is the New Hampshire State Curator (1997–2009), retired, and is on the staff of the *Advocate*.



The sign was preserved by the Dublin Highway Department and donated to DHS museum.

Photo courtesy of the Dublin Historical Society

John Hartwell 1956–2023

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August 2023 Events at the DubHub

Song Circle, Sunday, August 6

Song Circle meets the first Sunday of each month in the North Room from 3–5 pm. Open to the public, all are welcome to come and share your favorite songs with the group. Bring sheet music to share if you can and your instrument if you have one, including your voice!

Ongoing Activities

COFFEE & CONVERSATION

Coffee & Conversation on Monday and Wednesday mornings from 10 am–noon. All are welcome to pop in and have a hot cup of java on the house.

ADULT YOGA ON MONDAYS

Adult Yoga is taught by Gwir Hudleston Llewellyn in the South Room on Mondays from 3–4:15 pm. The cost is \$54 for the 6 weeks or \$11 per class for drop-ins. For information, email info@dublincommunitycenter.org.

EARLY AM YOGA ON TUESDAYS

Yoga instructor Meenakshi Moses offers early morning yoga class at 6:30 am on Tuesdays at the DubHub. The cost is \$40 for 4 weeks or \$12 per class for drop-ins. For information, email moses@namarupa.org.

DUBHUB OPEN HOURS ON TUESDAYS

Thanks to volunteers Nancy Cayford and Sue Gillette, the DubHub will now be open every Tuesday from 9am–3pm so that people can come in and use the space to study, use the Internet connection, have peace and quiet, check out the art, play a game, work out on mats, or just come to say hi. All are welcome, and we hope to see you!

QIGONG

Quigong will take a hiatus for the month of August and resume in September on Wednesdays at noon.

KNIT WITH NANCY ON FRIDAYS

Knit with Nancy via Zoom is on Fridays at 10 am. Email npcayford@myfairpoint.net for information.

Tie-Dye Activity, Saturday, August 12

Has it been a long time since you have tie-dyed a T-shirt? Have you ever wanted to try? On Saturday, August 12, from 10 am–1 pm, bring anything to the DubHub that you would like to tie-dye. It could be a T-shirt or maybe something altogether different, such as socks, ribbons, a pillowcase, dress, tie, halter top, shorts... you name it. We will have all the colors and supplies for you to use!

Outdoor Blues Concert, Thursday, August 17

We are fortunate to have two very talented and experienced blues musicians swing into town to liven up a Thursday evening here in Dublin as they tour the East Coast this summer! This Outdoor Blues Concert will take place in the Garden Sanctuary behind the Dublin Community Church on Thursday, August 17, from 5:30–7:30 pm, or inside the church in case of rain.

Jon Shain is a veteran singer-songwriter who's been turning heads for years with

continued on next page

Art Show Reception, Friday, August 11

For the month of August, the DubHub will feature the works of artists Pamela Dexter and Susan Ellis, with a reception that is open to the public on Friday, August 11, from 5–7 pm.

Dexter is a Vermont Watercolor member and the founder of Ash Hill Center for the Arts in Swanzey, NH, where she resides. "The Colors of Water," a retrospective of her work on display at the DubHub, chronicles her 20-year artistic progression painting in watercolors. Dexter prefers to paint intuitively and is inspired by concepts, perspectives, and internal visions. She describes painting as "a great release for my unending energy."

Ellis lives in Ashburnham, MA, and paints in oil and cold wax or acrylic. Blessed to be born with a creative eye, Ellis says she "lets the movement of the paint speak to me. The paint tells me where it wants to go and what image it wants to embrace." These days, her paintbrush has a passion for pears! Having earned various degrees and awards for her art, she paints for her pleasure and for the enjoyment of others. "My

goal is to give joy through my art, share my impressions, and inspire the viewer."

This show will be on display and available for purchase throughout the month of August, during open hours or by appointment. To make an appointment for viewing, email info@dublincommunitycenter.org.



Autumn Pond, watercolor by Pamela Dexter



Painting by Susan Ellis



Singer-songwriter John Shain

his words, his fiery acoustic guitar work, and his evolved musical style – combining improvised Piedmont blues with bluegrass, swing, and ragtime. Shain had the good fortune to learn directly from a number of North Carolina’s older blues players and became a member of Big Boy Henry’s backup band. He is the 2019 winner of the International Blues Challenge in the solo/duo category. In addition, Shain was a finalist (along with FJ Ventre) in the 2009 International Blues Challenge, won both the 2008 and 2018 Triangle Blues Society’s Blues Challenge, and was the 2006 winner of NC’s Indy award for Best Folk Act. Shain’s most recent solo disc, *Gettin’ Handy with the Blues: A Tribute to the Legacy of WC Handy*, was released in January 2018. Shain’s newest album, *Never Found a Way to Tame the Blues*, recorded along with long-time collaborator FJ Ventre, was released in 2021.

Bill Newton (saxophone, harmonica) is a founding member of three Triangle musical institutions: Rebecca and the Hi-Tones, Bill Newton’s Big Blues Quartet, and the Duke Street Dogs. He has recorded with the Indigo Girls and Big Mama E and the Cool, among others, and toured extensively with singer-songwriter Jon Shain.

We would love to offer this concert free to the public and are currently looking for sponsors to offset costs. If you, your family, or your business would like to sponsor this concert, please contact DubHub director, Monica Laskey, at info@dublincommunitycenter.org.

Annual Chicken BBQ, Saturday, August 19

All are welcome to join us on Saturday, August 19, at 5 pm at the DubHub for our Annual Chicken BBQ! Tickets will be available in the coming weeks. For more information, be sure to read our weekly newsletter, *Hubbub from the DubHub*, or send inquiries to info@dublincommunitycenter.org.

Coffee House & Open Mic, Saturday, August 19

Calling all musicians and music lovers alike! On the third Saturday of each month, the DubHub hosts a combined Coffee House & Open Mic, from 7–10 pm. A monthly coffee sponsor provides the java, and sweet and savory snacks are available. Attendees are welcome to BYOB. It’s an intimate environment with table seating, dimmed lights, and amazing talent right here in the Monadnock Region. A featured performance will take place for about 45–60 minutes, with open mic slots available prior.

This month, we are excited to feature Bill Plante. Singer-songwriter, pianist, and son of a big-band guitarist-turned-journalist, Bill caught the music bug early. In 1972, he quit college to join a country-rock band, The Cadillac Cowboys. The band did well for several years, a time when there was a real livelihood to be had from playing live music in clubs. When the band split up in 1975, Bill had saved enough to move to Boston and enroll in Berklee College of Music and continued to write and record music. In late 1976, he moved to Los Angeles, where he assembled a successful band that secured a year-long residency in a Wilshire Boulevard club. During more than five years in L.A., Bill played original music in many of the city’s venues, including the Troubadour, Madame Wong’s, and the Santa Monica Civic Center. Upon meeting and marrying his wife, Nancy, he moved to New England, built a studio in his home, and became a regular at DubHub open mics. Recent projects include production of a retrospective CD for his friend Paul MacNeil and work on an album of his own.

Email info@dublincommunitycenter.org to reserve a spot on the open mic sign-up,

Third grader Pia Gomez offers a gloved perch for Mahood the Harris’s Hawk at the DubHub in July.



Photo by Julie Rizzo

or just show up that evening to try your luck at finding an available spot on the list. There will be a \$5 suggested donation at the door to offset costs to the DubHub, and a hat will be passed for contributions going toward the featured performer(s).

DubHub Forum, Saturday, August 26

People have been talking about change for a long time. Whether joyful or dreaded, transitions inevitably come bundled with some stress and tension. Having the appropriate coping mechanisms, skills, and social support can make all the difference in the world. Come together on August 26 at 4 pm to the DubHub’s monthly community forum, “Here Comes Fall: How to Prepare for More Change,” to prepare for all the changes that may come with our transition into the fall season. The conversation will be held by three experts: Dennis Calcutt, the director of Connected Families NH; Louise Howlett, M.Div., LMFT, of MAPS Counseling Services; and Phyl Wyzik, CEO of Monadnock Family Services. They will offer insights, tips, and plenty of time for questions from the community.

NOTE: Calendars are always evolving. Please be sure to check out our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/dublinhub, and subscribe to our weekly newsletter, *Hubbub from the DubHub* (which can also be found on our Facebook page), for updated information about events! Email info@dublincommunitycenter.org if you would like to be added to the *Hubbub* weekly mailing list.



Fowl Play

BY JEANNE STERLING

“It’ll be great for the kids.”

That’s what Russell Eaves (Nancy Campbell’s dad) said to me when he showed up with a cardboard box full of fluffy little yellow chicks. In his arms was a weird-looking bird – a Japanese Silkie. Evidently, she was a very good “broody” hen. Whatever that meant.

So it began. We couldn’t keep them in a box forever, so it was decided to get the plans for a coop from the County Extension Program. Our neighbor and friend, Brian, could do carpentry and did the majority of the building. When finished, it was the Taj Mahal of chicken coops. We installed a two-tier metal nesting unit, spread fresh woodchips on the floor, and added a water dispenser and a pan of chicken feed. Now to wait for the first egg. It was a long wait. But we were ready! Fuzzy (the name we chose for the broody hen) clucked her way around while the chicks grew.

George Achille at Agway was my guiding light. Number 1 rule: Don’t name anything you plan to eat. Number 2: Get rid of all but one rooster. Number 3: Clip the wings so they don’t fly away. Do the clipping at night when the hens are rather stupefied.

At first, the chicks roamed free in the yard. Not a good idea – chicken droppings everywhere. Weeks later, the first egg was ceremonially carried to the kitchen. How exciting! Then another and another. Our rooster was busy with his girls. No, you don’t need a rooster to get eggs from a chicken. It was just that fertilized eggs were much in demand at the local organic store,



Maggie’s Farm, here in town. We had pale green and blue eggs from our Araucana chicks, as well as brown or white.

Fuzzy found several eggs in a nest that she deemed hers for brooding. But when she left the nest for food or water, another hen would jump in and lay an egg. I put a small cross on the original eggs with a marker and that prevented any “surprises” when I broke an egg for cooking. Oddly, one egg was laid without a shell. It only had the membrane and felt like a water balloon.

Yes, there is a pecking order. I wrung the neck of one of the victims to put it out of its misery. For some reason, we ended up with a Toggenburg goat, of all things. (Something else the kids would find “great.”)

If a plane flew overhead too low, the hens wouldn’t lay. When winter arrived, egg production slowed way down. A heat lamp kept the coop slightly warm, until the silly goat stood under the lamp and burned circles in the hairs on his back.

Russell slaughtered some of the hens. Eating them was difficult for me because I had ignored rule Number 1. I had named them.

Often, we would “change the sheets” and shovel out the woodchips, scrub the floor with a broom and disinfectant, and put in fresh chips. George suggested chicken pellets instead of grain, which was a lot cleaner than the powdery grain mixture.

Eventually, we (or should I say “I”?) stopped replacing the brood, and we slowly got out of the egg business. Fuzzy was the lone survivor, along with the goat. I gave Billy to a farm, and Fuzzy lived out her days as a pet. We dismantled the coop and gave it to the Campbells for a sugar house.

I planted my garden the following spring in the former chicken yard and had the most outstanding yield of veggies ever! They were also “great for the kids.”

Even if eggs cost \$50 a dozen, I still wouldn’t have chickens again.

JEANNE STERLING is on the staff of the *Advocate*.

Photo by Benjamin1444, from commons.wikimedia.org

Dublin Historical Society Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Dublin Historical Society will be held on Friday, August 18, at 5:30 pm, at the Dublin Public Library Program Room. A short business meeting will precede a presentation by Libby Haddock, on the work of her sister, noted Dublin artist Georgia Fletcher. Light refreshments will be served, and the meeting is open to the public. All are welcome!



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End 68 Needs Your Help!

End 68 Hours of Hunger has been busy trying to reach food-insecure children during school vacation, leaving bags of food weekly for parent pickup and delivering lots and lots of snacks to libraries, social service agencies, and summer schools.

All of this has done a number on our inventory, and right now, the items at the top of our wish list are canned chicken, canned tuna, fruit cups, and applesauce cups. We're so appreciative of all that Dubliners have already donated. If you'd like to help, we'd love to receive your food donations at the west entrance of the Dublin Community Church.

We're also looking for volunteer packers and transporters for the school year. Both are fun jobs, working with great people to meet a real need. Interested? Please sign up at bit.ly/packandtransport. Not available on a consistent basis? Consider signing up as a sub and learn firsthand just what's involved. Thank you!

My Dublin Story: Cecily Bastedo and Bronson Shonk

Two Plays in the 1950s in the Dublin Community Church

The first was *Everyman*, and the second was *Abou Ben Adam*. We were all little kids for *Everyman*. We had become teenagers for *Abou Ben Adam*. The director was Elizabeth Pool, ably assisted by Beekman Pool. Rehearsals were on the Pool's lawn; dress rehearsal was in the church. We had to know our lines, word for word, when rehearsals began. There was one week of rehearsing. The cast – and this seems to us the important part – was equally boys and girls, and equal measure summer kids and year-round kids. This distribution was quite important to Elizabeth and Beek.

Looking back, our best guess about costumes was that Elizabeth designed and made them. During the show, Elizabeth stood in the back of the church, which basically meant that it was all on the actors. For the second play (there was a gap of more than a couple of years between the *Everyman* project and *Abou Ben Adam*), we went about it in all the ways that we remem-



Courtesy of the Dublin Historical Society

Bronson Shonk, Mary Dickerson (Pierson), Cecily Bastedo

bered. Learn lines; meticulous rehearsals.

We believe it was quite a wonderful thing to have pulled it off twice in front of the packed church. The Pools believed that such an endeavor should be beneficial to those who saw and those who acted. It could not have been anything less.

August at the Peterborough Players

A play and a musical will round out the summer season at the Peterborough Players.

Pipeline, by Dominique Morriseau, will run from August 3-13. The play focuses on a divorced couple who are co-parenting a precocious but troubled teenager. Framed by Gwendolyn Brooks's poem "We Real Cool," *Pipeline* is about a mother's determination to redeem her son.

Tell Me on a Sunday, a musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber with lyrics by Don Black, will run from August 17-27. The one-person production follows the adventures of a woman who has moved to New York to pursue her dreams and find love. The story unfolds through a series of songs and letters home, and explores the theme of personal reinvention in pursuit of one's passions.

Tickets are available online at PeterboroughPlayers.org or at the box office 603-924-7585.

After four days hiking the Inca Trail, Anna Rizzo of Dublin reached Machu Picchu in Peru. From



there she hiked the Palccoayo Rainbow Mountain at over 16,000 feet altitude.

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Land Conservation Protects Future

BY KATIE FEATHERSTON

Lying in bed at night, listening to *more* rain coming down, it is comforting to think of all the open land in Dublin that allows excess water to be absorbed into the forest soil, preventing runoff and erosion. Mt. Monadnock, which rises over Dublin with steep slopes and shallow soil over bedrock, has been protected through the actions of some enlightened predecessors. Like many places in Dublin, it is a place that is unsuited for development and is now preserved for future generations to enjoy.

New Hampshire has a patchwork of protected lands from large to small, shaped by more than a century of conservation action. These lands support our economy through agriculture, forestry, and tourism. They protect wildlife habitats, support clean air and water, and provide recreational opportunities and aesthetic delights. Food for the body and soul.

The New Hampshire Land Trust Coalition says, "Conserving your land is a major decision with potential impacts upon family relationships and finances. Although finances are always involved and must be seriously considered, they are rarely the primary factor in the decision to conserve land. Conservation is an act of the heart and soul, an expression of values and a commitment to the future."

Land conservation begins with the actions of individual landowners. The first step is to connect with a land trust, a nonprofit organization dedicated to conserving land. There are over 40 land trust organizations in New Hampshire, with seven active in Dublin. The variety of land conservation options may seem daunt-

ing, but a land trust representative has the experience to lead a landowner through the process and answer all your questions.

Some questions to consider are: What do you love about your land and want to see preserved? How do you envision your land being used 50 years from now? Do you wish to continue to own the land? What are your financial needs and expectations?

One technique for protecting your land is a conservation easement, a legally binding agreement between a landowner and a land trust (or government agency) that permanently restricts use of the land to protect its significant natural features authorized by state law RSA 477:45-47. It allows the landowner to retain ownership and control, while voluntarily relinquishing some intensive uses of the land such as subdivision and commercial activities, although forestry and agriculture rights are protected.

There are many other options, too many to describe here, which is why connecting with a land trust organization is the way to go. You can find a list at NHLTC.org. Maybe you already know someone who has conserved their land and who can tell you about their process and why it has been important to them. Feel free to contact the Dublin Conservation Commission to let us know if you would like more information, would like to be connected to a land trust, or would be interested in attending a presentation about land protection. Katie Featherston, kfeatherk@gmail.com, or Jay Schechter, jschechter@focussales.us, would be happy to discuss land conservation with you.

KATIE FEATHERSTON is the treasurer of the Dublin Conservation Commission.

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Park Theatre Presents Ken Sheldon in *Deep Water*

On a sweltering day in August of 1918, toward the end of World War I, William K. Dean was brutally murdered at his hilltop home in Jaffrey, a crime that shocked the entire Monadnock Region. Was the murderer his wife, in the early stages of dementia? Was it his best friend, a powerfully connected banker? Or was it a mysterious stranger who had lived on Dean's property and was considered by some to be a German spy?

Deep Water – The Murder of William K. Dean features author Ken Sheldon in a one-man multimedia performance that includes hundreds of historic images, video footage, and voiceover actors. Among these actors are the late Tim Clark of Dublin voicing the part of banker Charles Rich. Many other area residents portray witnesses and investigators of the crime. *Deep Water* is based on transcripts of federal and state investigations, the grand jury report, FBI interviews, newspaper accounts, and other historical documents.

Playwright Ken Sheldon is a former columnist for *Yankee Magazine* and perhaps is best known for his appearances as Yankee humorist Fred Marple. In *Deep Water*, he plays Bert Ford, reporter



Ken Sheldon plays the part of newspaper reporter Bert Ford.

for the *Boston American* newspaper who covered the Dean murder. The play was commissioned by the Jaffrey Historical Society through a grant from the Bean Family Foundation.

Deep Water – The Murder of William K. Dean will be presented Saturday, August 12, at 7:30 pm at The Park Theatre, 19 Main Street, Jaffrey, with a talkback following the performance. Tickets are \$15, available at the box office at 603-532-9300 and online at theparktheatre.org.

Dublin Remembers Bronson Shonk 1942–2023

Bronson Shonk, born October 15, 1942, passed away peacefully at home on June 28, 2023. His wife, Mary, and their seven children extend lasting appreciation to Dublin Fire and Rescue and the Dublin Police for their care and help. Bronson's first cousins, as well as steadfast friends from Nelson and Dublin, have provided a network of support that has helped tremendously during this difficult time. The family also wishes to thank members of the community at the library, the Dublin General Store, Carr's Store, and the Post Office, who offered encouragement and support. Bronson's sense of humor, ready laugh, and generosity of spirit will be deeply missed.



Field Report from 2023 Salamander Crossing

In the spring of 2023, nearly 300 people volunteered with the Harris Center's Salamander Crossing Brigades, providing safe passage for 6,386 individual amphibians of 13 different species – including 4,596 spring peepers, 652 wood frogs, and 531 spotted salamanders – at 33 different crossing sites in the greater Monadnock Region. This brings the project total to a jaw-dropping 78,181 amphibian rescues since 2007!

In one night, at the Dublin crossing on Upper Jaffrey Road near the Learned Road wetland, two amphibian admirers crossed seven spotted salamanders (+ four dead), 18 red-backed salamanders (+ two dead), 28 wood frogs, and 39 spring peepers (+ five dead) and recorded one dead newt and 3 unidentifiable roadkills, for a total of 92 live and 15 dead.



Photo by Sarah Thomas, courtesy of the Harris Center

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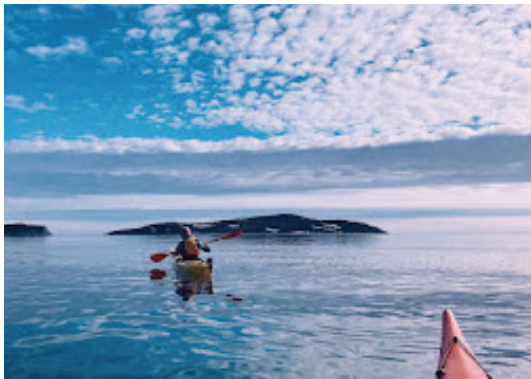
Aggie Macy in Greenland

continued from page 1

whom Lars connected me with. I really enjoyed our conversation. An avid hunter, he is well educated and currently works as a clerk at the gas station in town. Adam's love for his town is inspiring.

I'd originally reached out to Adam because of my interest in abandoned island settlements in nearby Aasiaat. In the 1960s, Greenland passed a law that essentially closed a bunch of smaller towns in order to build up the fishing industry in bigger cities. Now, many of the settlements are in ruins, and not much remains but the memories of the inhabitants. We devised a plan for the following day: Adam and his son, Aningaaq, would take us out to Manermiut, an abandoned settlement south of Aasiaat. He said he wanted to catch a seal on the way back. It's not too often you get invited to watch a seal hunt with a Greenlandic local!

We left Manermiut at around 8:30 pm. Caleb and I donned our warm suits. Arctic wind brushed our cheeks as we sped toward the open ocean and to a spot Adam knows seals like to cross. After passing some icebergs, he cut the engine, and we



all began searching the horizon for black seal heads. Adam and Aningaaq answered our questions about seal hunting—their knowledge is deep, as Greenlanders often start hunting when they are 6 to 10 years old. After a long time, we finally spotted a seal. We then began a long Greenlandic version of leapfrog – but with seals. Sometimes we lost the pack and we'd have to begin again. At exactly midnight, Aningaaq got a seal.

On our way back, Adam pulled into a cove along an island. I quickly realized that there were ruins of an old settlement – far older than Manermiut. There was characteristic evidence of turf houses in a grassy plain and burial mounds of rocks scattered about. Adam said that this settlement was probably 400 years old and that the population had probably been wiped out by a cholera epidemic in the early 1800s. I was astonished that we had just happened to land here.

We left the island a bit before 2 am, but none of us had yawned all night! The next night would be another late one, because I was running the “midnight sun marathon,” which didn't start until 8 pm. I started at an ambitious pace, which I was able to sustain the whole way! I wrote my whole honors thesis in my head while running, but I have since forgotten it all. As I finished my last lap, locals from town cheered for me through open windows along the street. I finished before midnight and was pleasantly surprised to get second place overall and win for the women.

The next day, we woke up early



Photos courtesy of Aggie Macy

Last push toward the finish after being handed Greenland's flag and met Adam, who lent us two kayaks to paddle out to Manitsoq Island to explore another abandoned settlement. Then we stopped at the old U.S. military base from 1940. Bowdoin's Arctic Museum has a sketch of the base from 1940, so I had a digital copy on my phone. There is so much history nestled in the land here.

We took an overnight ferry south to Sisimiut, where we enjoyed the incredible comfort of bunk beds in the cabins on board – best night of sleep I've ever had! The museum director was thrilled to see Bowdoin's archival pictures. She told me how important it is for the town to see them, as the only pictures taken from the 1926 era were from outsiders like MacMillan.

We're in town for a few more days, seeing where the wind blows. Then we'll start hiking the 9-mile Arctic Circle Trail on Saturday, July 1. With our detours, it'll probably take us around eight days. Then I fly out of Kangerlussuaq on the 10th and head back home! Time flies when time doesn't exist.

AGNES MACY will be a senior at Bowdoin College in the fall.

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August at DublinArts

Project Shakespeare Presents *Hamlet*

Ghost story, political intrigue, doomed romance – *Hamlet* is one of Shakespeare’s greatest tragedies, performed by students



from Project Shakespeare, a youth theatre education program based in the Monadnock region. Transforming students’ lives through theatre education for 29 years, Project Shakespeare students work in a collaborative environment to create a compel-

ling, entertaining, and accessible telling of Shakespeare’s text.

Saturday, August 5, and Sunday, August 6, at 2 pm. Tickets are \$10 for adults, and \$5 for children 12 & under, and are available at the door 1/2 hour before curtain. For reservations email projectshakespeare@gmail.com.

Following the performances at DublinArts, the students fly to England to present *Hamlet* at The Thorington Theatre in Suffolk, and The Royal Shakespeare Company’s outdoor theatre, The Dell, in Stratford-upon-Avon. Students will also attend performances at The Globe Theatre in London before returning home.

Music by Tom Pirozzoli

Tom Pirozzoli’s sophisticated guitar work and warm tenor delivers melodies and lyrics exploring the full range of the human and global experience. Tom’s simple path has been a life rich in music, art, and

travel, yielding a career filled with nine studio albums, numerous songwriting credits, and collaborations with other artists such as Willy Porter, Joyce Andersen, Rex Fowler of Aztec Two Step, and David Wilcox.



Saturday, August 19, at 7 pm. Tickets are \$15 at the door.

DublinArts is located at 1459 Main Street.

Thank you for coming to our community suppers!

We are taking a summer break and will not be serving meals in July, August, and September.

See you in October!

From the Outreach Committee of the Dublin Community Church

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AUGUST 2023 Calendar

Painting by Susan Ellis

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	29 DPL Friends' Ice Cream Social 4-6pm	1 HUB Early Yoga 6:30am; Open 9am- 3pm; DPL Recreation Committee 9am; Storytime 3:30-4:30pm	2 HUB Coffee & Conversation 10am-noon; DPL Summer Playground 10am-noon; TH Community Power Forum 7pm	3 DPL Family Game Night 5-7pm	4 HUB /Zoom Knit w/ Nancy 10-11am	5 DHS Signs Exhibit 10am-1pm; DublinArts Project Shakespeare 2pm
6 Peterborough UU Church Lyceum lecture 11am; DublinArts Project Shakespeare 2pm; HUB Song Circle 3-5pm	7 CEM Trustees 9am; HUB Coffee & Conversation 10am-noon; Yoga 3-4pm; DPL Family Crafts 3:30-4:30pm	8 HUB Early Yoga 6:30am; Open 9am-3pm; DPL Storytime 3:30-4:30pm	9 DPL Summer Playground 10am-noon; Trustees 5pm; TH Conversation Comm 5pm	10	11 HUB /Zoom Knit w/Nancy 10-11am; Art Reception 5pm	12 DHS Signs Exhibit 10am-1pm; HUB Tie-dye 10am-1pm
13 Peterborough UU Church Lyceum lecture 11am; DPL Art Restoration Tour 4pm	14 HUB Coffee & Conversation 10am-noon; Yoga 3-4pm; DPL Caterpillar Lab Visit 10am; Family Crafts 3:30-4:30pm; TH Select Bd 4:30pm; WMRC 5pm	15 HUB Early Yoga 6:30am; open 9am-3pm; DPL Storytime 3:30-4:30pm	16 HUB Coffee & Conversation 10am-noon	17 HUB/DCC Blues Concert 5:30-7:30pm; DPL Last day to log in summer reading; Family Game Night 5-7pm	18 HUB /Zoom Knit w/ Nancy 10-11am; DPL DHS Annual Meeting 5:30 pm	19 DPL Summer Reading send off 10-11am; DHS Signs Exhibit 10am-1pm; HUB Chicken BBQ 5pm; Coffee House & Open Mic 7-10pm; DublinArts Tom Pirozzoli 7pm
20 Peterborough UU Church Lyceum lecture 11am	21 HUB Coffee & Conversation 10am-noon; Yoga 3-4pm; TH Select Bd 4:30pm	22 HUB Early Yoga 6:30am; Open 9am-3pm	23 HUB Coffee & Conversation 10am-noon	24	25 HUB /Zoom Knit w/ Nancy 10-11am	26 DHS Signs Exhibit 10am-1pm; DPL Mandala Rock Painting 10am; HUB Forum 4pm
27	28 HUB Coffee & Conversation 10am-noon; Yoga 3-4pm; TH Select Bd 4:30pm	29 HUB Early Yoga 6:30am; Open 9am-3pm	30 HUB Coffee & Conversation 10am-noon	31	CEM Cemetery Trustees DCC Dublin Community Church DHS Dublin Historical Society DPL Dublin Public Library HUB Dublin Community Center TH Town Hall, Dublin WMRC Waste Management and Recycling Committee	

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Articles subject to edit. The editors reserve the right to refuse any article or advertisement.

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