The Dublin Advocate

To Encourage and Strengthen Our Community

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Seeking to Find Common Ground

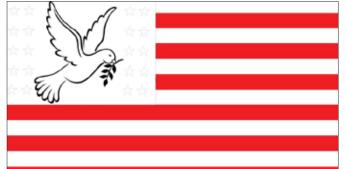
From the Editors: The December holidays are traditionally a time when we focus on peace and goodwill, yet this year we find ourselves in a time of deep division. A contentious election season, wars around the world, and even the future of our own Dublin school-children divide neighbors, families, and citizens into opposing camps. In times like these, many of us turn to spiritual traditions for comfort and guidance.

We have reached out to faith leaders in the Monadnock Region to share the guidance their traditions offer in times of conflict. While religion itself has often contributed to conflict over the centuries, we are struck by the common themes we hear in this wide diversity of religious thought. May the blessings of the season bring our community together!

Gwir & Abhai Raj Llewellyn, on Sikhi:

Sikhi is many things. So in reflecting on this time of division, it is challenging to identify what might be most relevant or inspiring to share with our community here in rural New England. But these two rise to the top: equality and *cherdi kala*.

"No one is high or low"; equality is fundamental to Sikh practice, which broke with the tradition of caste and elevated



and honored the role of women in society. Sikhs built an ethic of service, generosity, and devotion to truth over any one leader.

Cherdi kala is challenging to translate, but essentially it means "get back up." It means optimism in the face of seemingly impossible odds. It means not only never giving up but also being in good spirits as you continue the work, the vital work of repairing our bonds as a community and a nation.

Those who act like tyrants are accepted and approved – recognize that this is the sign of the Dark Age of Kali Yuga. (SGGS 902)

We share this scripture not as an excuse to throw up our hands and say it's inevitable; there's nothing we can do. Rather, in recognition that these are the times we live in, and this is our playing field. We still need to do our part in the play: fight for each other, serve one another, and

uplift each other in the days ahead. For in the end, as Sikhs, we see no stranger and recognize the entire human race as One.

Traceymay Kalvaitis, pastor, Dublin Community Church, on Christianity:

There are three spiritual traditions of the United Church of Christ that shine forth the brightest in this post-election moment. The first is a message of welcome and inclusion: "Whoever you are, and

wherever you are on your faith journey, you are welcome here." All across our land, these words ring out on Sunday mornings as words of assurance that all are included; there are no exceptions.

Our second tradition is study of the vast and diverse collection of literature in the Bible. There are so many messages that can help us to navigate challenging times in our own lives and in our civic lives as citizens of the greatest and most diverse democracy on earth. When Jesus was asked the question, "What is the greatest command?" He gave two answers, both from his tradition of Judaism. "Love God...and love your neighbor as yourself." One way we can love our neighbors is to recognize that their needs are just as important as our own.

continued on page 14



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December at DPL

BY KAREN MADIGAN

The end of a year is always a time of **■** reflection, and shining a light back on 2024 is illuminating indeed. Aside from the obvious "we got hired" milestone of one year ago, Elizabeth, Emaline, Victoria, and I have attacked DPL like a pack of rabid librarians - discovering, weeding, organizing, labeling, cataloging, decorating, repairing, and reconfiguring almost every inch of this library. We send a special thank-you to Volkert Volkersz for his efforts and talent in glueing DPL together in late 2023 and for sharing his knowledge with the staff.

First up was weeding all areas, reorganizing the nonfiction room and the Bastedo Room, and adding an original bookcase we found downstairs. Next came the children's spaces, creating Series and Juvenile Classics sections and a game area, and updating the Young Adult area. We quickly realized our working styles synched, and the ability to read each other's minds has helped a lot!

DPL enjoys monthly visits from the Dublin Consolidated School, and Emaline shines as host to a Homeschool Group for families

grown in popularity.

Thanks to our Friends of

the Library, we've purchased

hundreds of children's non-

fiction books and received

three grants for both chil-

dren's and adult materials.

We have hunted-and-gath-

ered tons of free or inexpen-

sive books to fill in the gaps.

Our immense gratitude goes

to Pam Bator and numerous

books and items we desper-

patrons who have donated

ately needed but couldn't

Blue Christmas Bones, by

Christmas at Glitter Peak Lodge,

The Christmas Tree Farm, by

by Lucy Connelly



All together, we added over 3,200 titles to the collection in 2024 for a grand total of over 22,000 items. This far exceeds the minimum recommendations by the ALA for a town the size of Dublin, but why shouldn't we have the mightiest little library in New Hampshire?

With a huge donation from Brandon Larouche, aka The Lego Guy at 603 Brix, we cobbled together a Lego station for our busy after-school drop-in Creative Club. Our stillin-progress Library of Things now includes tools and kitchen gadgets (thank you, Jim Beeler), Halloween costumes, a microscope, puzzles, games, and a suite of Chromebooks (thanks to the DubHub and Ken Page).

DPL has a food pantry in the downstairs vestibule; please leave and take as you please. We will donate leftovers to the church after the holidays. A new addition is a Lions Club drop-off box for gently used eyeglasses in the front entry.

We are thrilled to have a brand-new website for the library and added Google Workspace, new Facebook and Instagram pages, and Canva Pro (thanks to Elizabeth Moore and Charlie O'Riordan, our two tech gurus.) Charlie installed and maintains new computers, printers, and devices. Liz manages the website, ably problemsolves, and offers tech night on the third Tuesday of each month. We also help with tech issues on a drop-in basis. Victoria manages our lively social media presence.

In 2024, DPL survived an emergency elevator fix, HVAC and heat issues, drainage and water problems, a roof leak and repair, and a vile mystery odor from the elevator that is thankfully fading. Old buildings are such fun!

Most libraries with a staff of 20 or more employees would be hard-pressed to accomplish all this within a year. Impressively, Emaline, Liz, and Victoria have many other irons in the fire: raising families, teaching full-time, volunteering, and in Victoria's case working toward her MLIS. I am frankly amazed that four of us – with vastly different backgrounds, a common interest in and love for this library, and a lot of determination – came together and tackled so many projects in so little time. My coworkers rock, and Dublin is so lucky to have them. They are truly a gift to us all.

continued on page 6

from Dublin and surrounding **New Holiday Books List** communities that has quickly

Carolyn Haines

by Kjersti Herland Johnsen

A Christmas Duet, by Debbie Macomber

Christmas in Painted Pony Creek, by Linda Lael Miller

Melody Carlson

Death at a Scottish Christmas,

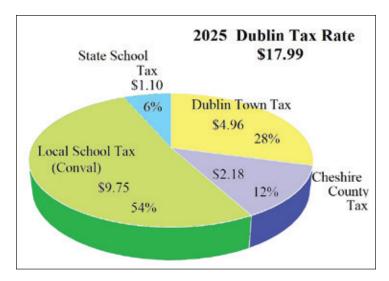
The December Market, by RaeAnne Thayne

Disney Christmas Cookbook, by Joy Howard

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New Tax Rate

T he tax rate for 2025 has been set. The Select Board applied \$260,000 from the unassigned fund balance to reduce the rate to \$17.99, a reduction of the rate by almost \$10. Since this was also a revaluation year, properties throughout Dublin increased in value. If you have any questions, please stop by or call Town Hall at 603-563-8544. You can pay your taxes and look at your bill on the town website: townofdublin.org.

Battery Disposal Ban

This fall, Governor Sununu signed a battery disposal ban into law (RSA 149-M:27) that goes into effect on July 1, 2025. The underlying intent behind this law is specifically to keep the front-line workers safe in dealing with waste generated by the general public.

Lithium-ion batteries are problematic when they get disposed of in landfills because often heavy machinery is used to handle trash, and if a lithium-ion battery gets punctured, it becomes flammable. The new law, which goes into effect in July 2025, adds items to that list, including lithium-ion batteries; wireless telephones; printers; copiers; fax machines; and computer accessories such as keyboards, mice, video cameras and speakers, external hard drives, memory storage devices, and scanners.

Please refer to bit.ly/batterydisp for additional information.

Town Clerk -DUBLIN, NH Candidacy Tax Collector Office **Filing Period** for Local Dublin is looking for a Town Offices: Clerk/Tax Collector to finish up the last year of the current term and hopefully continue January 22nd serving in the office. It is an elected position with full or January 31st part-time options. The Clerk can choose their own hours. Please consider running for office in the town elections in March, 2025. Contact the **OUR NEW HOURS** Town Clerk's office for more information. Monday: 7:30am-5:30pm Tuesday: 7:30am-2pm Town Clerk/Tax and 4:30pm-7pm Wednesday: 7:30am-1:30pm Collector Thursday: 7:30am-1:30pm **Holiday Hours** Friday-Sunday: Closed 11/25-7:30-4pm 11/26-7:30-2; 4:30-7pm 11/27-11/29- closed 12/23-7:30-4pm 12/24- 8am-12pm 12/25-12/27-closed 12/30-7:30-4pm CONTACT US 12/31-7:30-2; 4:30-7pm 1/1- closed 1/2-7:30-1:30pm 603.563.8859 1/3- closed deputytownclerk@townofdublin.org

Town of Dublin property tax bills due Thursday, December 19. Pay online, by mail, or in person.



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A Look Back on Fall at DCS

BY NICOLE PEASE

Fall is such a lovely time of year and made especially so by some special events. Susie Spikol of the Harris Center visited Dublin Consolidated School and shared how her passion for nature has taken many different forms, including writing books. Thanks so much to the Dublin Community Foundation for providing one of her books for each DCS family. October ended with the Halloween Parade up the hill to the Yankee parking lot. Many parents and local groups joined in the fun, and we so appreciated the support of our parade. With the lovely fall weather, students enjoyed some extra time outside. This year, students worked on building forts and fairy houses. Collaboratively building these structures provided many opportunities to learn new skills.

November brought parent/guardian teacher conferences. Teach-

ers reviewed each student's progress and areas of intervention. Small groups will focus on specific skills and will support students' continued academic growth.

We continue to focus on connecting with our local community. Teacher Kristen Garland has created an opportunity for students to increase their reading fluency through morning "read alouds" with adults. It is hard to know who is more excited for this time, the students or the adults! In honor of Veterans Day, each DCS student wrote to a veteran in the Monadnock Region. The staff at DCS seeks to instill an understanding of the importance of service to others and show that appreciation is a long-held tradition. November ended with the conclusion of the first trimester of the school year.

In December, the DCS community will focus on the celebration of light with a variety of different activities. The whole school will travel to the Mariposa Museum for a study of different festivals and games from around the world. This will be a great connection to the Lantern Festival held in downtown Peterborough the first weekend in December. The DCS staff wishes you a happy and healthy end of 2024 and a joyful start to the new year!

Kindergartners are wanted! If you know of a child who will be 5 years old before August 25, 2025, please have the family contact the SAU office at 603-924-3336.

NICOLE PEASE is the principal teacher at Dublin Consolidated School.











Tom Villeneuve RIA

603-491-4092 Hancock, NH 03449 Tom@MonadnockRetirement.com



Opportunity to Create Our Own Educational Destiny

BY CAROLE MONROE

s you may recall, on September 12, the ConVal Feasibility Committee voted down petitions from Dublin and Francestown to withdraw from the ConVal District. As allowed by the RSA, the town of Dublin then submitted a Minority Report to the State School Board of Education to be reviewed at their November 14 meeting. The ConVal Feasibility Committee also presented its Majority Report at the meeting. Our request to the board was to allow Dublin voters the right to vote in March as to whether Dublin continues to be a member of the Contoocook Valley School District or whether we withdraw from the ConVal District and form our own Dublin School District. The state board agreed with our Minority Report, indicating it was one of the best they had seen, and voted unanimously in favor of letting the voters decide. They also approved Francestown's request. We now have the opportunity to be heard and find the best path forward for educating Dublin's children.

The Minority Report and the Dublin Education Advisory Committee report to

the Select Board are both available on our website at townofdublin.org/dublin-education-advisory-committee. After extensive research and discussions with educators, ConVal, and other districts, we are recommending the following path:

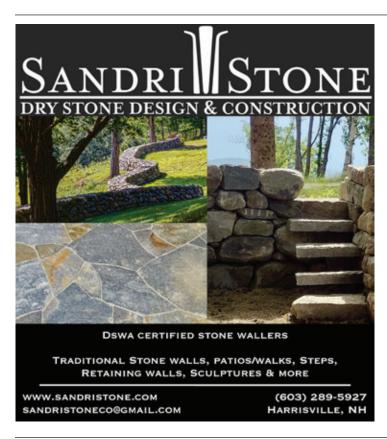
- Create our own Dublin School Board with the responsibility of providing the necessary support for Dublin Consolidated School to build a firm foundation for our children in Grades K–5 or 6. Consider whether adding a Pre-K class would enhance the education process. Empower our teachers to use this opportunity to continuously improve the educational experience and outcomes for our children. Protect the sovereignty of DCS.
- Tuition our middle and high school students to ConVal under a tuition agreement, providing those currently at ConVal with an uninterrupted pathway to graduation. Continuously review the opportunities and quality of a ConVal education to ensure the Dublin students are getting the best education for each individual.

- Focus Dublin's education funds on Dublin students.
- Establish a Special Education contract that provides all needed services to Dublin families.

All of the above is only possible if Dublin withdraws from the ConVal District. We will hold frequent forums to listen to you and to respond to any questions you might have leading up to the March ballot. Dublin's Select Board and the DEAC have recommended the most moderate way to realign our relationship with ConVal. Our proposal replaces a single representative on the ConVal School Board with a contractual partnership on much fairer terms, replacing the obsolete Articles of Agreement. Since ConVal will be required to establish an SAU Board where we will have representation, this will give us significantly more control.

CAROLE MONROE is the Select Board liaison to the Dublin Education Advisory Committee.

Dublin Remembers
Ben Bensinger
1942–2024





Capital Projects at ConVal High School

BY ALAN EDELKIND

The Region 14 Applied Technology Center at ConVal High School has a renovation opportunity worthy of our full consideration. We are in our final year of eligibility for the renovation as part of the state's capital budget, which covers 75% of eligible renovation costs to Career and Technical Education (CTE) centers. The State of New Hampshire has long recognized the importance of CTE, and this bipartisan support is a clear recognition of the vital role CTE plays in enabling students to explore career pathways, bridge the gap between secondary and post-secondary education, and align students' skills and interests with the needs of our local and statewide economies.

In anticipation of our eligibility for these funds, the ConVal Building Committee has spent the last two years assessing the present functionality of our CTE center and planning for the needs of our future students. Committee members have studied CTE programs and high schools statewide, selected a leading architectural firm, and drafted plans that define a vision for the CTE center's future. They have also drafted plans for a secure entrance to the high school with a single point of well-monitored access. In addition, the committee has proposed a renovation of the Lucy Hurlin Theatre that would transform the space into a two-story, 350-seat modern auditorium.

The project has two components:

- The first is the CTE renovations, equipment upgrades, and realignment of interior spaces to maximize efficiency, remain in compliance with state and federal regulations, and provide a secure main entryway. While this first component will have a total estimated cost of \$33,479,125, we will be receiving state capital budget funds in the amount of \$14,732,773, thus leaving the total amount needed for us to bond at \$18,746,352. Some of the work involved in this renovation, such as the secure entrance, demolition, and grounds work aren't eligible for renovation funding but are ultimately tied to the redesign of the space. This is common among districts that have preceded us in this process.
- The second component of the project would cover the renovations to the Lucy Hurlin Theatre. The cost will amount to an estimated \$10,657,002, all of which would be subject to local bond.

Your school board has developed three options regarding how to move forward for consideration:

- 1. Seek voter approval for the renovation of the CTE centers, the creation of a secure high school entrance, and the redesign of the Lucy Hurlin Theatre.
- 2. Break up the project into two phases. Phase one would seek voter approval for the renovation of the CTE and the creation of a secure high school entrance in March 2025. Phase two would seek voter approval for the renovation of the Lucy Hurlin Theatre in the following year, March 2026.
- Seek voter approval for only the CTE and secure entrance portion of the project, thus eliminating the Lucy Hurlin Theatre renovation from consideration.

Community feedback is, as always, essential to how we move forward. We are planning a community forum event on December 4 at 7 pm in the Lucy Hurlin Theatre in the high school. By that date, we will have received the 2024 tax rates and will be able to present the tax impact of this project.

The forum will be livestreamed on the ConVal Events YouTube channel, and the recording will remain there for future viewing. The architects and our CTE director, Jen Kiley, will be two of the many presenters at the forum. There will be time for extensive Q&A. Questions from the community can be submitted in advance to forum@conval.edu. Details and how to attend this forum in-person or online are available on our website: conval.edu.

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

December at DPL continued from page 2

As the year closes, we are all thankful for our patrons, the Trustees, and the Friends, and we send our heartfelt wishes to Dublin for a peaceful, joyous, and cozy holiday season.

KAREN MADIGAN is the director of Dublin Public Library.

FDPL Board Elects New Officers

At their November 14 board meeting, the Friends of the Dublin Public Library elected the following officers: president, Pam Bator; vice-president, Ruthie Gammons; secretary, Joan Rowett; treasurer, Phillip Gammons. The Friends Board meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 5 pm in the library. Meetings are open to the public. You can contact the Friends at friends@dplnh.org.





Sculpture Park at Dublin School

BY LIAM SULLIVAN

Dublin School's Nordic Center, long a destination for endurance sport enthusiasts from around New England, will soon welcome visitors as the newest arts venue in the Greater Monadnock Region. The

school plans to establish an outdoor sculpture park on its grounds, taking creative advantage of the unique topographies and playful logic of the Nordic Center's trails to create a viewing experience that draws visitors into a closer connection with the natural world.

The school circulated a request for proposals to artists across New Hampshire earlier this year and is now preparing to debut the first series of sculptures. Installations will be judiciously scattered around the Placid Trail

section of the Nordic Center, preserving something of nature's mystery through an encounter with art that almost mimics a game of hide-and-seek. The venue will be open to the public year-round and accessible via a short uphill walk or ski from the Nordic Center parking lot.

Originally conceived by Dublin School's Nordic Center director, Lisa Bates, the project has been met with enthusiasm and generosity by members of the local community. The Putnam Foundation, alongside Dublin School alumnus Tom Putnam, who helped the school open the Putnam Gallery space in 2012, has given generously in sup-

port of this new outdoor space. It is with pride that Dublin School now expands the Putnam Gallery through the establishment of the Putnam Sculpture Park, providing visitors with a different kind of viewing experience.



Two sculptures recently acquired by Dublin School.

Longtime Dublin resident Rick Mac-Millan is a proponent of the new sculpture venue, feeling that it will address an underserved area of the arts in the Monadnock Region by making three-dimensional art more broadly accessible to the public. "There's life; this project has legs. I see these installations as important and really a cornerstone, because the one thing we're missing around here is three-dimensional art."

To date, the school has nearly one dozen sculptures slated for installation. The first acquisition, "Merge," was created by

Dublin School alumnus and local artist L.P. Runyon IV and made possible through the generosity of Dublin resident Augusta Petrone. Though it will eventually migrate to the Nordic Center, "Merge" is currently on display outside the Putnam Gallery on the campus of Dublin School. A second piece, "Awakening," done in cast glass by

Peterborough artist Jocelyn Brown, is expected ahead of winter.

Throughout the curatorial process, the Putnam Gallery's director, Earl Schofield, has been intentional about creating variety in the selection of both medium and subject. Residents of the Monadnock Region can look forward to the arrival of pieces cast in bronze or constructed in collaboration with a local beaver, eight-foot-tall flowers, separate commissions from a mother and son, a monumental granite heron,

a cerulean blue owl, and much more that will animate these woodlands.

On December 6, Dublin School will host a reception for Nelson area artist Wendy Klemperer at the Putnam Gallery in recognition of her contribution to the Putnam Sculpture Park. The free event will run from 6–8 pm, and the public is encouraged to attend and hear from the artist about their piece "Lynx Rufus," a post-industrial mirage of a bobcat, which is currently on display inside the original Putnam Gallery.

LIAM SULLIVAN is a writer/content creator at Dublin School.





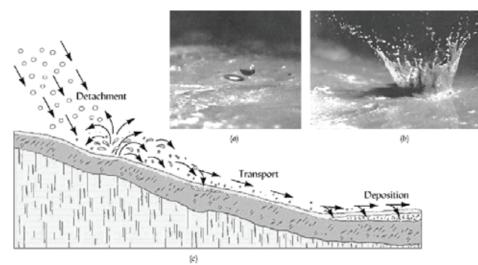
Erosion on Steep Slopes

BY KATIE FEATHERSTON

Any time soil and vegetation are disturbed, the risk of soil erosion increases. The power of a single raindrop is astonishing. It strikes the bare soil without the buffer of vegetation and causes a mini explosion of water and soil. Then it moves downhill, carrying the soil particles with it, picking up velocity and erosive power. Rivulets, ditches, and gullies can result, with the power to destroy driveways, roads, bridges, and other structures, even cause landslides. Heavy cloudbursts are the most damaging.

The steeper the slope, the greater the damage. Steep slopes tend to have shallow soil over bedrock. The perfect example of the damage done is right in our backyard. Mt. Monadnock was once covered with trees to the very top, but logging, fire, and overgrazing destroyed the topsoil at the top and left the bare rock behind. Fast-moving water does not get absorbed into the water table and carries sediment into streams, ponds, and wetlands.

The USDA Soil Survey delineates soils by type and by percent slope, with an A



slope being nearly level at 0–3% (a 0- to 3-foot increase over 100 feet), all the way up to an E slope of 50% – very steep! The steepness of slope should always be considered in land use planning. New Hampshire municipalities can regulate steep slopes through ordinances based on slope stability. Some of the damage done by Hurricane Helene in North Carolina has been attributed to a lack of such protection.

A slope greater than 25% is very challenging and should be left undisturbed. No driveway should exceed 15% slope. Dublin

Land Use Regulations state, "Where the natural slope of the land on which a building (any structure for which a building permit is normally required) is to be constructed is of 15% slope or greater, engineering data shall be submitted to show that the proposed structure is of sound engineering design, and footings shall be designed to extend to stable soil or rock." The town retains the right to inspect the premises at any time during construction to assure that construction is being carried

continued on next page







Consider DubHub rental space for your next event!

Did you know that in addition to all the music, art, events & classes held at the DubHub, the building or individual rooms (including a fully equipped kitchen) are available to rent for gatherings of your own? We offer reasonable rates, including discounted rates for class rentals or non-profits. Consider holding your birthday parties, family gatherings, workshops/classes, meetings, etc. in this beautiful, conveniently located space!

Contact Monica at info@dublincommunitycenter.org or 603-563-8080.

Steep Slopes continued from previous page

out according to the approved engineering plans as submitted and to levy fines for any violation or deviance from the plan.

Logging does take place on steep slopes. but foresters should know and employ Best Management Practices for reducing erosion, especially on steep slopes. Skid trails and forest roads have the most erosion potential, but proper planning and installation can minimize the damage. New Hampshire has laws designed to promote responsible timber harvesting and minimize environmental impacts of logging. Landowners, loggers, and foresters have the responsibility to know and understand New Hampshire's timber harvesting laws, and municipal officials have the authority and responsibility to work with state agencies to ensure that these laws are consistently enforced. Landowners can be held liable for damage to neighboring properties or those downstream from any alteration of topography. Fortunately, the steep slopes of Mt. Monadnock have been permanently protected from development.

KATIE FEATHERSTON is a member of the Conservation Commission.

Municipal Solar Grant Award for the Fire Station

BY SUSAN PETERS

Dublin applied for a municipal solar grant from the New Hampshire Department of Energy for funding to install a solar array on the south-facing portion of our Fire Station roof. In 2023, the Fire Station roof had been identified as an attractive site after consultation with solar energy professionals. A solar



array on this portion of the roof would offer enough capacity to meet the current electricity needs of the Fire Station, with some room for future growth in electricity usage.

Notice of the municipal solar grant application process became available in early June, with a deadline of August 1, 2024. The Dublin Energy Committee met to review the grant process, including the necessary steps to complete the application on time. The Select Board then issued a request for proposals from prospective photovoltaic vendors to assist with the technical aspects of the grant application and proposed project. Town grant writer K Vanderbilt worked closely with Energy Committee members and Town Administrator Kate Fuller to complete the application on a timely basis. Fire Chief Tom Vanderbilt and Clean Energy NH Circuit Rider Frank Richter also provided valuable input.

On November 13, Governor Sununu and the Executive Council approved 16 municipal solar grant proposals from across the state – with Dublin's among them. The grant will cover the estimated project cost of \$43,843. Next steps will include a kickoff meeting in January 2025 with the state's technical team. Many steps will follow in 2025, including permitting, installation, and interconnection with the Eversource infrastructure. Once the system goes live, the town can expect lower utility bills from Fire Station electricity usage.

Please join me in thanking all who contributed to our successful grant application – especially town grant writer K Vanderbilt and members of the Energy Committee!

SUSAN PETERS is the Select Board's liaison to the Energy Committee and is on the staff of the *Advocate*.







OFF the purchase price of your meal.

One coupon per party.

THROUGH JANUARY 1, 2025

December 2024 Events at the DubHub

Ongoing Weekly Activities

Coffee & Conversation, Mondays and Wednesdays, 10 am-noon

Adult Yoga, Mondays, 3-4:15 pm Early AM Yoga, Tuesdays, 6:30-7:30 am

DubHub Open Hours, Tuesdays, 9 am-3 pm

Office Hours, Wednesdays, 10 am-3 pm. DubHub director, Monica Laskey, is available to meet with community members. Feel free to email info@ dublincommunitycenter.org to set up a meeting or to see the space.

Qigong, Wednesdays, noon-1 pm Knit with Nancy via Zoom, Fridays, 10

For more information, email info@ dublincommunitycenter.org

Song Circle, Sunday, December 1

ll are welcome at Song Circle, which meets the first Sunday of each month from 3-5 pm. This month join us for a Christmas sing-along, after which we will go outside at 4 pm to sing carols at the tree lighting event. Musicians can share favorite songs with the group and are asked to bring sheet music of songs with chords (10 copies) to help others play along. If you don't have a printer, please send a printable version by the previous Friday to David Mueller at dmueller55146@gmail.com.

Herb Class w/Katherine Gekas, Tuesday, December 10

Terb classes at the DubHub happen on **⊥** the second Tuesday of every month at 7 pm. It's a great opportunity to learn about how herbs can help you get, and stay, healthy. On December 10, Katherine Gekas will teach participants how to make holiday cordials and elixirs. People will go home with a sample and a handout with information and resources. Herb class is open to everyone at any time of the year, and there is a sliding scale fee (\$10-\$40). For more

information, email katherinegekas2@ gmail.com.

Holiday Cookie Market Sale, Saturday, December 7

The DubHub will sell a variety of homebaked holiday cookies by the pound from 1-4 pm during the Small Treasures Art Show & Sale. All proceeds from the sale will be donated to the Food Pantry. Calling all bakers: If you love to bake and would like to participate by helping those in need in this way, just whip up a batch or two of your favorite cookies, bars, or confections to donate to our sale. To sign up, email info@dublincommunitycenter.org.

Herbal Office Hours, Tuesday, December 17

n the third Tuesdays of the month, Katherine Gekas holds herbal office hours from 4–6 pm in the small room at the Dublin Community Center. Herbal office hours will be one-on-one sessions

for people who have questions about medicinal herbs but need a private consultation. Payment will be sliding scale and optional (\$0-\$125).

Storytelling & Spoken Word, Wednesday, December 18

n the third Wednesday of every month from 6:30–8:30 pm, the DubHub hosts the Monadnock Storytelling & Spoken Word Circle, an open mic to share stories, poetry, rap, comedy, or truly any kind of spoken word. The organizers are Sebastian Lockwood and Papa Joe Gaudet, both of whom have 20-plus years of experience as professional storytellers. All are welcome, participants and listeners! Coffee and tea will be available, and BYOB is welcome. For more information, contact Papa Joe at papajoestorytelling.com and Sebastian at bit.ly/slockwood.

Meditation & Mala Making, Thursday, December 19

Tome join Jess Nelson from 6:30-∠8:30pm for an evening of meditation and mala making. No experience neces-

Small Treasures Art Show & Sale, Friday-Monday, December 6-9

mall Treasures showcases the artwork of local artists who exhibit two- and three-In dimensional pieces that are no larger than 5 x 7 inches. All items are available for

purchase over a four-day period, with a portion of the proceeds to benefit the center. This is one of our largest fundraisers, and more than 30 area artists participate each year. From the beautiful to the fanciful, you are sure to find the perfect gift for someone you love, or for yourself, among the various paintings, sculptures, handmade jewelry, and more! The opening reception is on Friday, December 6, 5–7 pm. and the show and sale will continue on Saturday, December 7, 10 am-3 pm; Sunday, December 8, 12–3 pm; and Monday, December 9, 10 am-3 pm. For more information, email info@dublincommunitycenter.org.









sary! Mala beads are traditionally used in meditation to help focus your mind and hold the energy of your practice. We will learn a little about mindfulness meditation, practice with a guided meditation, and spend the rest of the evening making a mala bead necklace. Perfect to keep for your own practice or give as a gift. \$25/person pre-registration required. Email Jess at theriverstonestudio@gmail.com to sign up.

Coffee House & Open Mic, Saturday, December 21

n the third Saturday of each month, the DubHub hosts a combined Coffee House & Open Mic from 6–9:30 pm. A monthly coffee sponsor provides the java, and sweet and savory snacks are available. Attendees are also welcome to BYOB and dinner/snacks. A featured performance takes place for about 45–60 minutes, with open mic slots available both prior and after.



This month, we are delighted to feature the acoustic trio Decatur Creek.
Multi-instrumentalists Jack Henry, Beth Eldridge, and Doug Farrell have three CDs of original music available on Spotify, iTunes, YouTube, Pandora, and Amazon. Their music is a unique blend of folk, blues, fiddle tunes, swing, classic country,

Calendars are always evolving. Please be sure to check out our Facebook page, facebook.com/dublinhub, and subscribe to our weekly newsletter, Hubbub from the DubHub, for updated information about events. Email info@dublincommunitycenter.org if you would like to be added to the Hubbub weekly mailing list.

Project Shakespeare's A Christmas Carol, Sunday, December 22, 4 pm

We are excited to host Project Shakespeare's annual holiday production of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. Founder and director Deborah Shakespeare

Thurber's adaptation focuses on it being a "ghost story," expanding the role of Jacob Marley and giving the audience a peek into Ebenezer Scrooge's early life through the interventions of the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Yet to Come. Twentynine students, ages 10-19, sing,



dance, and bring their engaging storytelling to this time-honored tale of love, family, and redemption. Join us for an evening of holiday cheer that promises to be a "Dickens" of a good time for the entire family.

Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$5 for children (12 & under), and can be purchased at the box office half an hour prior to the show. Project Shakespeare will also hold a Holiday Quilt Raffle. Judy Michaud, master quilter, is donating a beautiful handmade quilt. Raffle tickets are \$5 for one ticket and \$10 for three and can be purchased at all performances. For reservations and quilt tickets, email projectshakespeare@gmail.com.

and Americana. You can check them out on their website, decaturcreek.com.

Email info@dublincommunitycenter.org to reserve a spot on the open mic sign-up, or just show up that evening to try your luck at finding an available spot on the list. A suggested donation starting at \$5 (or more) can be given at the door to help off-set costs, and a hat will be passed during the performance for contributions to the featured performer(s).

Smartphone Photo Contest

We will once again hold a DubHub Smartphone Photo Contest featuring images taken in 2024 by those who live, work, or go to school in Dublin. The deadline for submissions is December 31. The contest is open to photographers in three categories: amateurs, professionals (defined as anyone who has received remuneration for their photography), and children (age 12 and under). Each entrant may enter up to three photos taken between December 2023 and December

2024 of a person, a place, a detail shot, or an event anywhere in the Monadnock Region. Prizes will be awarded at a special reception in early January. The cost for entering the contest is \$10 per photo, which will cover the costs for printing a 5 x 7-inch glossy photo that you may keep. Email info@dublincommunitycenter.org for information on how to enter the contest.

We Want to Hear from You!

Please let us know if you have any new ideas for the DubHub. What kinds of classes, workshops, events, or services would you like to see? Are there things happening that you love, and is there anything we could improve on? If you are a person or business who would like to collaborate with us to hold a class, event, or service, please let us know. If there is a product or service that you produce that you would like to share with the community, or if you might like to be involved in any future fair or event, email info@dublincommunitycenter.org.

Iron Dog Adventure

BY LISA FOOTE

Some individuals aspire to lofty goals.

Kim Bergeron of Dublin and JP Bernier of Hancock did so when they competed as a team in the Pro Class of the Iron Dog snowmobile race in Alaska last February. Think of the 1,000-mile-long Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race, then increase the length to 2,503 miles. Substitute a snowmobile for a team of dogs pulling a sled, and increase the speed of travel: Snowmobiles average 30–45 mph over the length of the Iron Dog, with top speeds of 100 mph.

Kim is no stranger to riding his snow machine in Alaska. In an interview with Rick Ganley on NHPR last March, Kim shared that he has been riding in Alaska for 22 years. In fact, he has competed in the 1,000-mile Expedition race there six times, and his teammate JP has done so three times.

Given that depth of experience, JP convinced Kim to step up to compete in the Pro Class last February, which included 500 miles of the Red Dog Loop upon which neither had traveled. They were one of 26 teams competing yet the only one

hailing from east of the Mississippi River.

Given their rookie status and the reality that many of the competitors were close to half their age, their goal was not so much to win as to finish. In fact, the team that went on to win the \$80,000 prize shared their planned GPS routes with Kim and JP before the race.

The amount of gear carried on the sled needs to be kept to a minimum. Spare parts for the sled, tools, and safety gear – like the race-issued GPS, a survival bag rated to minus 30°F, an extra set of clothing, and the means to start a fire and boil water – are essentials.

Kim agrees that there is no typical day on the course. However, there are some constants. First, there are only six hours of daylight and often more than 12 hours of riding each day before being accommo-



dated in villagers' homes overnight. The sleds need maintenance, aka wrenching, both on the trail and on any layover. Stops at multiple checkpoints allow for refueling and oversight of physical well-being. Navigation is a constant as well, but the conditions encountered are unpredictable and sometimes hazardous. There is no set trail for the race, so the teams choose their own routes. It entails constant decision-making when presented with uneven terrain, long

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Iron Dog Adventure

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stretches of desolate back country, elevation changes, or adverse weather.

For instance, last year Kim and JP rode through a ground blizzard with only 20 feet of visibility. Along the coast, they chose to run on the sea ice close to open water where the ice is smoothest, that is until they saw a gray lump sticking up inshore of their track. When they realized that the lump was a seal's head poking up through thin ice and that the incoming tide was breaking up the ice's edge on the other side, they accelerated to 80 mph and hightailed it away from deep water.

Kim rode 2,296 miles before he miscalculated the distance of the open water he had to cross, causing his sled to sink into six feet of water in the Tatina River. Who knew that traversing water on a snowmobile was even possible? Their training kicked in, and JP applied survival skills to stave off Kim's hypothermia. An hour later, another competitor's sled sank just 25 feet from where Kim's went down. JP and the other team's remaining rider eventually went on to finish the race together but



only after having a scary encounter with a charging moose.

Apparently, once was not enough, as Kim and JP plan to compete again in the Iron Dog. Reached by phone on November 11 in Trapper Creek, Alaska, where they were training in less than 12 inches of snow, Kim explained that they are preparing for the race by physical conditioning, practice runs on the sleds, and tackling the logistics of shipping equipment. Their goal is to ride at least 30 full days before the race in mid-February.

Kim is proud of his association with the Iron Dog organization, which is committed to raising safety awareness and distributing helmets and safety vests in Alaskan villages where snowmobiles are the main means of transportation. The sled manufacturer Polaris is also instituting training courses to teach youths the trade of repairing sleds.

An endeavor this intense requires physical training, mechanical know-how, back country experience, mental toughness, and, most of all, courage. Kim describes it as "living life" – being self-sufficient while cross-country riding on his sled.

The Iron Dog starts in Big Lake, Alaska, on February 15, 2025. Follow Kim and JP's progress on their quest to join the teams finishing the race at irondog.org and at Iron Dog Team #15 Bergeron/Bernier.

LISA FOOTE is on the staff of the Advocate.





Seeking Common Ground

continued from page 1

This leads us to the third tradition, our tradition of service. We serve through efforts that include community meals, support of local helping agencies and townspeople in crisis, and aiding the resettlement of immigrants and refugees who are, like many of our ancestors, searching for a safe home.

Through our traditions of service, study of the scriptures, and welcoming all, we live out our command to love God and love our neighbor. There are no exceptions listed in the scriptures, so we strive to see all as neighbors. These three traditions set our course and bring us hope for a better world.

Phil and Ruthie Gammons, caretakers of the Historic Dublin Inn, on Bahá' í:

The Bahá'í Faith community responds to the world's division and polarization by fostering spaces that prioritize unity, mutual respect, and collaboration. Guided by principles of justice and compassion, Bahá'ís work to cultivate a sense of collective purpose that transcends partisanship

and divisions, recognizing that meaningful change comes from nurturing unity in action.

In a recent letter to the Bahá'ís of the world, the Universal House of Justice, the world governing body of the Faith, states that –

...with every passing day, we see too the condition of the world grow more desperate, its divisions more severe. The escalating tensions within societies and between nations affect peoples and places in myriad ways.

To recognize this is to acknowledge the profound moral imperative faced by the peoples of the world. The House of Justice continues:

This demands from every conscientious soul a response. We are all too aware that the Bahá'í community cannot expect to be unaffected by the travails of society. Yet, though it is affected by these travails, it is not confused by them; it is saddened by humanity's sufferings but not paralyzed by them. Heartfelt concern must prompt sustained effort to build communities that offer hope in place of despair, unity in place of conflict.

Through community-building efforts – such as gatherings for prayer, educational programs, and social action initiatives – Bahá'ís, along with others of like mind, seek to create environments where diverse perspectives can converge in service to humanity. These endeavors encourage individuals to see beyond their differences, building connections rooted in shared values and aspirations. Bahá'ís work on showing that through humility, consultation, and cooperation, people can address complex issues without adding to the divisions that so often hinder progress. Abdu'l-Bahá said,

We must all strive with heart and soul until we have the reality of unity in our midst, and as we work, so will strength be given unto us.

Kyle Wilcox, pastor, Mountain View Bible Church, on Christianity:

Division is a constant in human history. Disagreements inevitably arise, sometimes escalating into deep divisions. As Protestant Christians, we turn to God's Word, the Bible, for answers.

God's original design for life was "very good," as seen in Genesis 1:31. However, humanity's disobedience fractured this

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Seeking Common Ground

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harmony, creating a chasm between our holy God and sinful humanity.

God's solution to this division is found in his one and only Son, Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6). God Incarnate, Jesus, allowed those who rejected him to kill him so that he could provide the necessary means for unity through his resurrection for those who have put their faith in his finished work.

Those who trust in Jesus alone experience peace with God and are given a new way to approach division with others. God tells us, "If possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone." (Romans 12:18, CSB)

The one who wants to love life and to see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit, and let him turn away from evil and do what is good. Let him seek peace and pursue it, because the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do what is evil. (1 Peter 3:10–12, CSB)

Division reminds us that we live in a broken world, but it serves as a dark backdrop for a bright hope – God offers peace through His Son with both Himself and with others around us.

Rabbi Daniel Aronson, Congregation Ahavas Achim, on Judaism:

The Jewish community is no stranger **▲** to crisis. Throughout our history, we have navigated through immense internal conflicts, existential threats from outside the community, and conflicts that have engulfed the nations and regions where we have lived. It is a point of pride for us that no matter the challenges we have faced, we have survived and flourished. We remember the tragedies that have befallen us, and we mourn our kin who have died as martyrs and innocent victims. Still, our compass is set on a future in which all human beings will be relieved of suffering and we - Jews and non-Jews alike - will celebrate life with unremitting joy.

One of the great principles of Torah is "Love your neighbor as yourself," which the first century sage Rabbi Hillel interpreted as



dam Vaillancourt Roofing replaced roof shingles on Dublin Community Church, part of a major building preservation project.

"What is hateful to you, do not do to others." This is a guiding principle for any community in crisis or experiencing extreme conflict. It does not mean we must refrain from vigorous debate, nor does it mean we should not hold one another accountable. Indeed, debate for the good of all is highly valued in Jewish tradition, and the Torah itself commands us to gently rebuke those who have caused harm or betrayed the community's trust. Rather, we must simply remember that each human being is created in the image of the Divine, in God's likeness, and do nothing that would desecrate that likeness, except to save another life. Indeed, Jewish tradition teaches that we are descended from one human being, Adam, to teach us that all life is sacred: "To save one life is to save an entire world. To take one life is to destroy an entire world."

At this precarious time in history, we should all respect the image of holiness in one another and recommit to building a world of peace, joy, and fellowship.

Leaf Seligman, itinerant preacher and daughter of the trees:

In troubling and troubled times, I turn to the wisdom of the trees, who instruct us in the core spiritual teaching of reciprocity. A reciprocal relationship is not the same as a transactional one. The latter involves quid pro quo: You give me this, and I'll give you

that in exchange. You accept my belief, and I'll tolerate yours. Reciprocity invites us into deeper postures of humility because it recognizes our intrinsic and inextricable connection. Your well-being is bound with mine. We offer and yield in ways mutually sustaining so that all can flourish.

hoto by Frank Rizzo

In forests, myriad species coexist and must find balance if the ecosystem is to thrive. The domination of one species over others results in a dangerous imbalance, and so we learn that hierarchal thinking that values some more than others leads to our diminishment because we fail to acknowledge the wholeness and inherent worth of everyone.

If humans view forests – and all the beings they comprise – as commodities instead of spiritual siblings, we act recklessly in ways that compromise our integrity and undermine the fullness of our experience as co-constituent beings in the body of earth. In divisive times when we pit one set of humans against another, we imperil ourselves and the planet.

The reciprocity of trees, who so graciously capture carbon, provide us oxygen, and offer shade and shelter among so many other gifts, ask only that we offer our compassionate, mindful, right-sized accompaniment in return. As humans, may that be what we also offer each other.

A Few Solutions to the Throwaway Culture

BY MARY LOFTIS

Tt's easy to feel awash in "stuff' – clothes, Lbooks, toys, tools, kitchen equipment. Many of us have too much of just about everything. After a home or closet purge, it can be tempting to throw away what we no longer need. But here in Dublin, there are some viable alternatives to heaving those veteran jeans and Lego blocks into the compactor.

The Swap Shop at the Dublin Transfer Station, operated by volunteers on Sat-

urdays, is open three seasons (lack of heat closes it down in winter). It accommodates almost all categories of usable goods except electronics and, in particular, seems to have an impressive selection of toys and books.

Twice a year, in spring and fall, the **Dublin Community** Church holds a massive rummage sale, recently

renamed "The Gift of Thrift." Unwanted items of all descriptions, but worthy of a second lease on life, are collected for six months in the east-side sheds next to the church. Then, in the week preceding the sale, volunteers organize all that stuff by category: clothes, shoes, artwork, dishes, furniture, seasonal décor. The sheer volume is astounding – but a lot of it gets redistributed to new homes. There are no set prices. People pay what they can for the things that they need – a pure form of

recycling!

If they have something worthy (or simply precious to them) but broken. Dubliners can also drive to the Repair Café at MAxT in Peterborough on the second Saturday of the month from 10 am-2 pm. The Repair Café concept originated in The Netherlands and has spread worldwide. The MAxT café was the



first in New Hampshire. Volunteer "fixers" generally specialize in several categories of repairs.

Paul Tuller fixes broken furniture and says there are many broken chairs in the world! Many are very humble, but there is also an occasional treasure such as the classic Eames chair he restored after it had suffered catastrophic damage from an exuberant teenager. He also does wiring and mechanical repairs. People bring in lamps to rewire, mixers to unjam, pottery to reassemble, and jackets to rezipper, and there are specialists for all these things. Many of continued on next page







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December at MAxT

AxT Makerspace in Peterborough is in the midst of Lan exciting move to Noone Falls; but meanwhile, they are offering an array of fun classes and workshops in the old space on Vose Farm Road. On tap for December:

- An Ugly Sweater Factory, Sunday, December 1, 1–4 pm
- Heirloom Handmade Stockings, Tuesday, December 3, 5:30-8:30 pm
- Stained Glass Suncatchers (two sessions), starts Wednesday, December 4, 6-8 pm
- Gnomes!, Thursday, December 5, 5:30-8:30 pm
- Puppet Yourself, Saturday, December 7, 10 am-4 pm
- Intro to Bowl Turning, Saturday, December 7, 1-4 pm

For information and to register, go to maxtmakerspace.org.



Solutions continued from previous page

the broken items have more personal than monetary value, but they can usually be rescued from the landfill. The repairs are paid for by donation.

MAxT, which also offers communal workshop space as well as a wide array of classes, is moving from its current location on Vose Farm Road to Noone Falls. The move, which involves relocating heavy equipment, is due to be concluded in Janu-

ary, but the December Repair Café will be held in the new space. Parking is behind the building and can be accessed from either end. Check the website, maxtmakerspace.org, for updates and information about their grand reopening celebration at the beginning of the new year.

You can "lighten up" your home by editing your sweater collection, jettisoning all the extraneous plastic toys, and tossing the flickering bedside lamp. But wait! You can donate those sweaters to the rummage sale, take the Hot Wheels bike to the Swap Shop (next spring), and get your lamp rewired at the Repair Café. And since the gift-giving season is upon us, you might try your hand at "upcycling" by turning that old sweater into a pair of mittens or leg warmers!

MARY LOFTIS is on the staff of the Advocate.





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Holiday Services

During the Christmas season, Mountain View Bible Church (81 Page Road) invites you to join them for some special holiday events.

On **Sunday, December 15, at 5:30 pm**, they will host a Christmas program titled, "How Great Our Joy!" We hear a lot about joy at Christmastime, but what is it about Christmas that provides deep and lasting joy amid the routine and rigor of life? The program will explore this idea through choral music, congregational carols, and readings.

On **Christmas Eve**, Mountain View Bible Church will celebrate with a "Carols & Candlelight" service at 6 pm. This service will last an hour, and all are invited to enjoy some Christmas cookies afterward.

For more information, please contact MVBC at 603-563-8069 or secretary@ mtnviewbible.org.

The Dublin Community Church (1125 Main Street) invites the community to celebrate the four Sundays of Advent, December 1, 8, 15, and 22, during the regular church service at 10:30 am. The traditional candlelight Christmas Eve service of lessons and carols will take place at 7:30 pm. On Christmas Day, a community potluck dinner will be held in the church hall at 2 pm. For more information about the potluck, please call 860-574-4235 or email prrarchieroth@aol.com.

December Festivities

Meanwhile, the center of the village will be abuzz with holiday activity on **Saturday, December 7**. In addition to the Small Treasures Show & Sale and Cookie Market Sale at the DubHub (see Dublin Community Center listings on page 10), the **Christmas Boutique** on the east side of the church will be open from 10 am–2 pm with lots of holiday décor and some special treasures.

The boutique is chock-full of specialty gift items, including some beautiful sweaters and holiday decor. If you've been to rummage sales before, you know the boutique sells items such as jewelry, scarves, purses, ties, belts, dresses, ceramics, decorative and party dishware, and unique

trinkets – to name just a few of what you might discover there.

Used Book Treasures to Find

Any bibliophiles out there? Any bookworms? Anyone who still has a library or a bookshelf in their home? Anyone who just likes a unique, or collectible, or unusual, or beautiful book?

Then we hope all of you will come out to our first book sale (also including music and movies), on **Saturday, December 7**, from **10am–4pm**, at the Dublin Community Church Hall. Since these donations have become substantial enough to merit their own sale, we have separated them from our biannual rummage sale. As with the rummage sale, any books or music you wish to purchase will be by donation, with no set pricing. Proceeds benefit many church programs. Come prepared with your bags to fill. We have many great titles in many great subject areas.

Since there's still some time before the sale, we are asking for any donations of books, music, and movies you may have been saving for the next rummage sale.





They can be dropped off in the sheds designated for rummage.

If you have questions about the book sale or interest in helping, please call Ellen at 603-831-1360.

Community Messiah Sing

A Community Messiah Sing with the Apple Hill String Quartet will be held on Saturday, December 7, at 4 pm at the Peterborough Unitarian Universalist Church, 25 Main Street. Come at 1 pm to practice. Contact friendsofmessiahptbo@gmail.com or 603-924-4226.

Stories to Share in Jaffrey: Ophelia Dahl

on Friday, December 6, at 5 pm, the Jaffrey Civic Center will present the third program in this season's "Stories to Share" series. The speaker will be part-time Jaffrey resident Ophelia Dahl, who will engage in a "conversation"

with series moderator Joe Steinfield.

Ophelia Dahl is cofounder of Partners in Health (PIH), which began in Haiti's rural Central Plateau more than 30 years ago. She served as executive director of PIH for 16 years and now chairs its board of directors. In partnership with local organizations, PIH provides high-quality health care to millions of impoverished people in 11 countries around the world.



In April 2024, TIME named Ms. Dahl as one of the 100 most influential people in the world, citing her "profound commitment to the reduction of human suffering." Dahl was born in England in 1964, the daughter of actress Patricia Neal and author Roald Dahl. She codirects her

late father's literary estate.

The program is free of charge, but to help support this event and others like it, donations are appreciated. The program will be available as an in-person event at the Jaffrey Civic Center and recorded. To register for in-person attendance, please go to jaffreyciviccenter.com/stories/, or call JCC's executive director, Laura Adams, at 603-532-6527.

More Need Than Ever

The number of students served by End 68 Hours of Hunger is up dramatically this year – typically 230–240 students per week, compared with about 160 at the end of the last school year. That's a lot of mouths to feed! It means we're going through a lot of food every week, and your generous donations are more appreciated than ever.

A note of caution to the kind folks shopping for End 68: This time of year, foods left at the east entrance of the Dublin Community Church are subject to freezing. So, if you're able to add End 68 Hours to your food shopping list, items that won't be affected by the cold are especially appreciated: Saltines, Ritz crackers, nutrition bars, and mac and cheese. Oh, and plastic grocery bags from Market Basket are always needed. Thank you!

On Christmas Day

Wednesday December 25, 2024 2 pm in the Church Hall

We will provide turkey and ham. You provide a side dish. (860-574-4235 for info)

Regular community suppers will resume in January on 4th Tuesdays, 5:30–6:30 pm

Get these dates on your calendar!

January 28: Turkey

February 25: Meat loaf

March 25: Italian

April 22: Ham

May 27: Spaghetti

(Always a vegetarian & vegan option)

From the Outreach Committee of the Dublin Community Church



Music on Norway Pond Presents

"Shine: Songs of a Billion Stars"

Every year since 2010, Music on Norway Pond in Hancock has mounted a holiday concert featuring the women of the Norway Pond Festival Singers, the young singers of Jr. Mints, and special guests. This year, conductor Jody Hill Simpson adds tenors and basses to the choral mix for a total of 75 singers in a joyful holiday program called "Shine: Songs of a Billion Stars." Accompanied by Mary Ann Fleming on piano and Amanda Evans on harp, they will highlight music by Benjamin Britten, John

Rutter, John McCutcheon, and others.



Special guest Micah Nicol entertained our guests last spring with his bluegrass group "The Ruta Beggars." Now he returns, guitar in hand, this time with frequent collaborator Jacqueline Armbruster on violin, introducing his new song "Good Morning, Heart," composed especially for this concert.

This will be an afternoon with holiday music to fill our souls – angels will be heard on high – and audience members are sure to be filled with the spirit of the season. Get your tickets at www.musiconnorwaypond.org for this joyous event on Saturday, December 21, at 4 pm in the Hancock Meetinghouse.

December Offerings from the Harris Center

Film Showing: "The Mighty Weasel," Thursday, December 5, from 7–8:30 pm in the Putnam Theater at Keene State College

The weasel family is often associated with unsavory behavior – we "badger" people and "weasel" out of obligations – but do these critters deserve their bad reputations?

Decide for yourself during a big-screen showing of the PBS nature documentary.

Wildlife Out Your Window, Saturday, December 7, 1–3 pm at the Harris Center

Join wildlife biologist Brad Timm for a talk and walk inspired by his new book. He will reveal fascinating facts about 100 animals commonly seen in the northeastern United States.



Nature Through the Year in Backyard and Beyond, Thursday, December 12, 6:30–8 pm at the Harris Center

Join Francie Von Mertens to explore the turning of the seasons, guided by insights from her popular nature almanac and calendar.

For more information about these programs, go to harriscenter.org.

DECEMBER 2024 Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 HUB Song Circle 3-5pm; Yankee Tree lighting 4pm	2TH Cem. Com. 9am; HUB Coffee & Conversation 10am-noon; Yoga 3-4:15pm; DPL Mindfulness 2pm; Nature Lab 3:30- 4:30pm; Creative Club 3:30-4:30pm	3HUB Yoga 6:30- 7:30am; Open 9am-3pm; DPL Dublin GOP 5:30pm	4HUB Coffee & Conversation 10am-noon; QiGong noon-1pm; DPL Storytime 10:30am; Home school group 10:30am	5TH Planning Bd 56pm; DPL Game Night 4-6pm	6HUB/Zoom Knit w/ Nancy 10-11am; Small Treasures Recep and Sale 5-7pm; DS Art reception 6-8pm	7 HUB Small Treasures Art Sale 10am-3pm; Holiday Cookie Market 1-4pm; DCC Christmas Boutique 10am-2pm; Book Sale 8-4pm; DPL Stories w/Opa 10:30am
HUB Small Treasures Art Sale 12-3pm	9HUB Coffee & Conv. 10am-noon; Yoga 3-4:15pm; Small Treasures Art Sale 10am-3pm; DPL Nature Lab 3:30pm; Creative club 3:30pm; Mindfulness 2pm; DHS 4pm	1 OHUB Yoga 6:30-7:30am; Open 9am-3pm; Herb Class 7pm; DPL Waste & Recycle Com. 4pm; FDPL mtg 5pm	1 1 HUB Coffee & Conversation 10am-noon; QiGong noon-1pm; DPL Storytime 10:30am; Home School Group 10:30am; Trustees mtg 5pm	12 de la Game Night 4-6pm	13 HUB/Zoom Knit w/ Nancy 10-11am	14 DPL Dublin Dems
15 MVBC Christmas program 5:30 pm	16HUB Coffee & Conversation 10am-noon; Yoga 3-4:15pm; DPL Nature Lab 3:30- 4:30pm; Creative Club 3:30-4:30pm	17HUB Yoga 6:30-7:30am; Open 9am-3pm; Herbal Office Hours 4-6pm; DPL Tech Night 6pm	18HUB Coffee & Conv. 10am-noon; QiGong noon-1pm; Storytelling Circle 6:30-8:30pm; DPL Storytime 10:30am; Home school Group 10:30am; Paul & Earnie 10:30am	19DPL Game Night 4-6pm; TH Planning Bd 6pm; HUB Meditation and Mala Making 6:30-8:30pm	20HUB/Zoom Knit w/Nancy 10-11am	21 WINTER BEGINS HUB Coffeehouse & Open Mic 6-9:30pm
22 HUB "A Christmas Carol"	23HUB Coffee & Conversation 10am-noon; DPL Nature Club 3:30-4:30; Creative Club 3:30-4:30pm	24 CHRISTMAS HUB Yoga 6:30-7:30am; Open 9am-3pm; MVBC Candlelight Service 6pm; DCC Candlelight service 7:30pm	25 CHRISTMAS; HANUKKAH begins at sundown TH Closed; DCC Community Potluck 2pm	26 BOXING DAY; KWANZAA TH Closed; DPL Game Night 4-6pm	27 HUB/Zoom Knit w/Nancy 10-11am	28
29	30HUB Coffee & Conversation 10am-noon; DPL Nature lab 3:30-4:30pm; Creative Club 3:30-4:30pm	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE HUB Yoga 6:30-7:30am; Open 9am-3pm; Smartphone Photo Contest entries due	DCC Dublin Community Church DPL Dublin Public Library DS Dublin School HUB Dublin Community Center MVBC Mountain View Bible CHurch 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 editors reserve the right to refuse any article or advertisement.

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