

Volume 26, Issue 3

PUBLISHED MONTHLY SINCE AUGUST 1999

Dublin, NH 03444

Chief Suokko to Represent New Hampshire

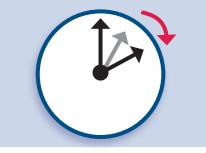
BY SUSAN PETERS

Congratulations to Dublin Police Chief Tim Suokko on his appointment as the New Hampshire representative to the State Association of Chiefs of Police, a division of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP). SACOP serves as the organizing body for the individual state associations of chiefs of police and includes representatives from each of the state associations. SACOP also serves as the coordinating body between the state associations and the IACP, facilitating the exchange and dissemination of information related to law enforcement.

SACOP's work focuses on a number of areas, including creating policy guidance on timely and relevant law enforcement

Daylight Saving Time Starts March 9

Turn the clock forward one hour.



topics; facilitating and encouraging dialogue between local law enforcement and their state and federal partners; providing tools and resources for members to manage their individual association more effectively; offering training programs, projects, workshops, and presentations on a wide array of subjects to SAOCP membership; and

overseeing the SafeShield Committee, which works to promote officer safety.

March is Local Voting Month!



"I am honored to be representing the New Hampshire Chiefs of Police and look forward to collaborating with fellow law enforcement leaders from across the country for the betterment of our profession," said Chief Suokko.

Our town is very fortunate to have a dedicated law enforcement team. Thanks to Chief Suokko for his leadership in Dublin and in the law enforcement community!

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

Town election will be held on **Tuesday, March 11, 2025**. Polls will be open from 8:30 am to 7 pm for voting by ballot on town warrant articles 1 and 2, for candidates for town offices, and on the ConVal School District warrant articles. You must be a registered voter and bring photo identification. Before the election, you can register at the Town Clerk's office (go to townofdublin.org for hours) or at the Supervisors of the Checklist meeting on Saturday, March 1 beginning at 11 am. Registration is also possible on election day.

Town Meeting will take place on **Saturday, March 15, 2025**, at 9 am at the Dublin Consolidated School. Residents in attendance will vote on town warrant articles 3–18.

A condensed version of the town warrant articles is included in this issue. The full text can be found on the town website at **townofdublin.org**. The ConVal School District warrant articles have been mailed to residents.



The TOADSTOOL Bookshops

Enchanting selections of wonderful books and music

8 2 3 9 4

12 Emerald Street, Keene • 603-352-881512 Depot Square, Peterborough • 603-924-3543

MARCH 2025

March Happenings at DPL

BY KAREN MADIGAN

C pring is coming, and we are excited **J**about warmer temperatures and jazzy new books. Children's books funded by the Pilcrow grant have arrived, along with a big February book order courtesy of the Wright grant, featuring a little of everything.

We're always on the lookout for ways to

improve our services. Outreach has started, so let us know if you or someone you know needs materials delivered. My brain shortcircuited every time I looked at our strangely ordered DVD shelf, so I reorganized it. Now it's simply alphabetical, left to right, top to bottom.

Do you wonder where and how we get our books? A lot of time and thought go into an order, usually placed with Ingram Library Services, which offers a 40% discount. Given the \$30+ price tag of a normal hardback these days, that discount is vital. It takes a few weeks to finalize an order, which includes reading reviews of the items, checking relevance to our audience, juggling costs so we have plenty of budget left for the rest of the year, and checking each item against our database to make sure we don't double-order.

We also purchase at the Toadstool when we need something quickly, and it's always a pleasure to work with Emerson Sistare and company. I also apply for every grant out there, and when we receive one, we celebrate.

You might be surprised by how many patrons donate books to DPL, either for the collection or for our book sales. If we don't have a donated item in our collection, we'll use it there; if we do have



it already, the book either replaces our worn item, or it goes to the sale. Staff and Friends of DPL often find bargains at Goodwill, Savers, or other places that we add to the collection, often at no cost. To say we get excited about those finds is an understatement.

In other news, Victoria is revamping our Young Adult services, receiving teen input on their likes and wants and offering a teen book club once a month, an ongoing homework

club, and a crafting drop-in. Do you have teens at home? We'd love to host them here for doing homework, playing games, creating something amazing, or finding a great book to read. They can win cool prizes for meeting reading goals, with a grand prize of a Yeti coffee tumbler on March 31. If you're 12 to 18, join YA Bookish Bingo today. If you haven't seen the videos Victoria and Liz have put on Facebook and Instagram, check those out too. One has over 1,600 views!

Emaline's story time and homeschool group is such a happy time for us each week. Sometimes we have special guest offerings, like Stories & Songs with Opa Volkert, or service dog story time with Paul & Ernie. Come join the fun every Wednesday morning at 10:30–11:30 and find a warm, welcoming community for your family. Emaline is also a talented math tutor, so any child needing math help can stop in Mondays and Wednesdays after school.

We always try to honor requests or suggestions from our community, so don't be shy about telling us your thoughts, needs, and ideas. Emaline, Liz, Victoria, and I wish you a happy, healthy March filled with great books...and maybe a little less snow and ice. KAREN MADIGAN is the director of Dublin Public Library.



YOUR SATISFACTION IS OUR GUARANTEE!

- Cars
- Certified Technicians
- Trucks
- Heavy Equipment
- Custom Cut Glass
- Limited Lifetime Warranty
- Complete Mobile Services
- We Do All Insurance Paperwork

Servicing Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts & Vermont

140 Monadnock Hwy. E. Swanzey, NH www.MonadnockAutoGlass.net

603-357-6280 603-903-1348 Fax 877-463-7710 Toll Free

ON TOUR from ALICE DI MICELE OREGON

DUBLIN COMMUNITY CHURCH 1125 MAIN STREET • DUBLIN TUESDAY, APRIL 8 · 6 PM

"Alice's music has that great combination of earthiness and groove that keeps it funky from the inside out. She's for real." - BONNIE RAITT

Support the music with advance tickets at: WWW.ALICEDIMICELE.COM **OR HUMANITIX.COM**

> No one turned away for lack of funds.

THE DUBLIN ADVOCATE may be found online and in color at WWW.DUBLINADVOCATE.COM

Town Warrant Articles in Brief

Editors' Note: The following warrant articles have been edited for brevity. To read the full text of each article, see the Town of Dublin Annual Report 2025.

Article 1: To bring the ballots for town officers.

Article 2: To amend the Dublin Zoning Ordinance to update the setback dimensions and minimum lot size in the Village District as follows:

Front yard setback - 35 feet

Side yard setback - 15 feet

Rear yard setback - 15 feet

Minimum lot size – 35,000 square feet (approx. 0.8 acre)

This amendment seeks to update the setback dimensions for lot sizes in the Village District to support development that is consistent with the district's character and planning goals. It is intended to balance property use with preservation of community aesthetics and function. The full text of the proposed changes is available for review at the Dublin Town Hall and on the town's website. (See discussion on page 12.) (Recommended by the Planning Board)

Article 3: To raise and appropriate the Budget Committee's recommended sum of \$2,771,192 for general municipal operations. This does not include appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately. Majority vote required.

(Recommended by the Select Board and the Budget Committee)

Article 4: To raise and appropriate \$619,000 to be contributed to the previously established town Capital Reserve Funds, for \$50,000 to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance, and for the remainder of \$569,000 to come from taxation for heavy highway equipment (\$85,000), police cruiser (\$35,000), fire equipment (\$161,000), road construction (\$250,000), town-owned infrastructure maintenance and repair (\$10,000), town buildings maintenance (\$68,000), Recreation Trust (\$5,000), and Energy Capital Reserve Fund (\$5,000).

(Recommended by the Select Board and the Budget Committee)

Article 5: To raise and appropriate the sum of \$225,000 to chip seal town roads, to come from the Road Construction Capital Reserve Fund.

(Recommended by the Select Board and the Budget Committee)

Article 6: To raise and appropriate \$107,000 to purchase a one-ton dump truck pursuant to the Capital Improvements Schedule, to come from the Heavy Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund.

(Recommended by the Select Board and the Budget Committee)

Article 7: To raise and appropriate \$66,000 for the purchase of a new police cruiser pursuant to the Capital Improvements Schedule, with \$49,500 to come from the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund, \$1,500 to come from the Police Special Detail Account and the remainder of \$15,000 to come from taxation.

(Recommended by the Select Board and the Budget Committee)

Article 8: To raise and appropriate \$9,000 to replace the handicapped-accessible ramp at the Police Department and ensure ADA compliance, to come from the Town Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund.

(Recommended by the Select Board and the Budget Committee)

Article 9: To raise and appropriate \$150,000 to repair the front of the Transfer Station building, build an office space, and make site improvements, including lowering the compactor, paving, and drainage, to come from the Recycling Special Revenue Fund.

(Recommended by the Select Board and the Budget Committee)

Article 10: To raise and appropriate \$4,395 to purchase a credit card machine, have it installed, and purchase security software for the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's office, to come from taxation.

(Recommended by the Select Board and the Budget Committee)

Article 11: To raise and appropriate \$4,000 to fund the operation and publication of The Dublin Advocate newsletter for the period April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2026, to come from taxation.

(Recommended by the Select Board and the Budget Committee)

Article 12: To raise and appropriate \$7,841 to be contributed to the following agencies, which provide advisory health and welfare services and whose programs have a public purpose, to come from taxation: Monadnock Region Child Advocacy Center (\$500), CASA (\$500), Southwestern Community Services (\$744), Monadnock Family Services (\$1,915), Home Healthcare, Hospice & Community Services (\$1,690), The River Center (\$500), Community Volunteer Transportation Company (\$450), Hundred Nights, Inc. (\$500), End 68 Hours of Hunger (\$500), Cornucopia Project (\$250), and Monadnock Center for Violence Prevention (\$292).

(Recommended by the Select Board and the Budget Committee)

continued on page 18

Call Today!

603-924-7229

or email us at



2025 Candidates for Town Offices

The following Dublin residents have stepped up to run for local offices. Our town government depends on all of us to do our part, and these citizens deserve your careful consideration as well as your gratitude for their willingness to volunteer their time and talents.

Select Board (1 position)

Blake Minckler – Since moving to Dublin in 2020 with my wife and five children, I have actively engaged in community service through my roles on the Energy Committee, the Dublin Education Advisory Committee, and the Budget Committee. Together with



other resident volunteers, Dublin successfully joined the Cheshire County Community Power Program and secured a grant for a PV solar system to be installed on the fire station roof, providing real cost savings to Dublin taxpayers.

I have participated in the lengthy and thorough study on the most pressing issue

that we as Dublin residents face, the ever-increasing cost of public education across the ConVal district. Dublin's educational costs far surpass our operating budget, and we feel that pinch every time we pull our tax bills out of our mailboxes.

I am a firm believer that we must be fiscally responsible and sometimes make hard decisions, with the end goal of preserving

and improving our community through responsible taxation and smart investment for our future.

 $\label{eq:allan Geoff Pinney} \textbf{-} No \ statement \ provided.$

Town Clerk/Tax Collector (1 position)

Sarah Wilcox – I've been working as Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector since February 2024. I took over as Interim Town Clerk/ Tax Collector in August. Prior to that, I was a stay-at-home mom, made jewelry, and sold flowers from my garden. I help out as church secretary for Mountain View Bible Church and have worked as a curriculum



customer service representative before I had kids. I am seeking this position because I really enjoy the job. It's been wonderful to meet more people in town! There was a lot of training involved, and I want to make sure I continue to use it as well as grow in my ability to help the people of Dublin.

Budget Committee (2 positions)

Susanne Vogel – In 2017, I was asked to fill a vacant one-year position on the Budget Committee. That year was definitely a



year of listening and learning. Over the past seven years, I have gained a strong understanding of the town's budget process. I have also thoroughly enjoyed working with the department heads to understand their needs while keeping in mind the impact on the taxpayers. I am hoping to continue to serve Dublin in this role.



MARCH 2025

The Dublin Advocate

William B. Gurney – I have been a resident of Dublin since 1991. I am a retired educator and have served on the Budget Committee, the Capital Improvement Committee, the Dublin Education



Advisory Committee, and the Fire Safety Committee. I've also served as a Dublin Public Library trustee and as an alternate on the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

It will be interesting to serve on the Budget Committee over the next few years. Small towns are finding that providing government services is becoming a greater

burden for their residents. In addition, challenges to our method of funding education is creating uncertainty for town planners as well as parents of school-age children.

Dublin is fortunate to have a dedicated, hardworking Budget Committee addressing the challenges ahead, and I would be honored to continue to serve with them.

Planning Board (1-year term, 1 position) Matthew Savaliev – No statement provided.

Planning Board (2-year term, 1 position)

John (Jack) Munn – I have lived in Dublin for almost 20 years. I grew up in Montgomery County, Maryland. When I was 15, my family moved to Geneva, Switzerland, where I attended and graduated from Ecolint, the oldest international school in the world. I attended college at Ohio Wesleyan University and then on to Virginia Tech, where I obtained a graduate degree in urban and regional planning.

I have worked as a city and regional planner for over 45 years in North Carolina, Colorado, and New Hampshire. I have received numerous regional, state, and national planning awards and am an honorary member of the American Institute of Certified Planners.

I have no agenda or goals but to help the Dublin Planning Board with its current and long-range planning. I served on the Energy Committee in Dublin and on the Chesterfield (NH) Planning Board for several years while working for the city of Keene and the Southwest Region Planning Commission. My last position was chief planner for 14 years with the Southern NH Planning Commission located in Manchester. I love to ski, hike and bike – but my new love is gravel biking.

Planning Board (3-year term, 2 positions)

Rob Sullivan – My experience on the Conservation Committee



has shown me firsthand how vital it is to safeguard our natural surroundings and the unique small-town charm that makes Dublin special. However, I also understand that thoughtful, sustainable development is essential for our community's continued growth and vitality.

I believe in a balanced approach – one that honors our town's rich heritage while

embracing smart, forward-thinking progress. By combining my conservation experience with a commitment to responsible planning, I will work to ensure that every new project and policy not only preserves our scenic beauty and history but also brings opportunities for innovation and progress.

Together, we can create a future where Dublin continues to be a place of natural splendor and a thriving, dynamic community. I look forward to earning your support and working collaboratively to achieve a harmonious balance between conservation and development.

Brie Morrissey – I am a dedicated community member with a passion for preserving the town of Dublin. Growing up in Peter-

borough and living in Dublin for the last 16 years, as well as serving as an alternate on the Planning Board, I have gained valuable insights into our town's development challenges and opportunities. Being a landlord as well as running other businesses in town has given me the insight needed to contribute effectively to our planning processes.

I am running for the Planning Board

to bring an active community member's perspective and a commitment to sustainable growth as well as the preservation of the quaint town we all know and love. My experience as an alternate has shown me the importance of thoughtful planning that respects our unique character while addressing the needs of our residents and local business. I believe in fostering open communication and collaboration among property owners to ensure that Dublin remains a vibrant, welcoming place for all. Together, we can create a vision for our town that balances development with preservation, ensuring a bright future for generations to come.

continued on page 19



Need help cleaning your home or business?

We are a bonded, insured home and business cleaning service with more than a decade of Five Star cleaning experience.

Present this ad for a \$25 discount on your first Dream Clean Experience!

Please call or text Jen at **413-237-1790** or **413-507-7728**, or **jenn@dreamclean123.com** to book your premium cleaning service today. **www.dreamclean123.com**

Dubliners Weigh in on ConVal Decision A Longtime ConVal Educator's Perspective

BY MAY CLARK

ive reasons to vote against Dublin's withdrawal from the ConVal School District: 1. Withdrawal will not improve educational quality. Our elementary school is excellent, with teachers and staff we don't want to lose. Our middle and high school students will still go to ConVal (maybe this will have to be negotiated), but Dublin residents will no longer vote on budgets, will not be represented on the school board, and will have no ability to make our voices heard.

2. There is no guarantee that withdrawal will save us money. A new level of administration is required by law, special education costs will be ours alone (even one student could cost well over \$100,000 per year), we will be responsible for transportation of all our students, and we must manage teacher contracts and benefits without the benefit of the economies of scale. Buses, fuel, health coverage, equipment, and providing instruction in the arts and physical education

without sharing personnel with the district will all cost more.

3. The state of New Hampshire is cutting aid for special education costs and sending more money to private and religious schools through its voucher program. This will only result in less support for public education from the state. Our attention should be focused on that.

4. The withdrawal plan will not be fully developed until after we vote to approve it. The process is complex. There is no longer the threat of a bond adding debt to the school district budget. We have plenty of time to better conceive the plan before we make such an important decision.

5. Public schools exist because, in this country, we recognize a shared responsibility for the education of our next generation. This means all of us, including those with no children or lots of children. The ConVal district was formed to share this responsibility across nine towns. Last year, the district

experienced a divisive study and proposal for consolidation, along with possible closing, of four elementary schools. That proposal was defeated but was followed by another divisive process, the feasibility study for Dublin's possible withdrawal. District-wide, we have not had a chance to heal from last year's divisive events. The community voted against consolidation, and the school board voted against Dublin's withdrawal. There are hard feelings on all sides. We need to come together as a community once again and work to solve our problems with some new proposals other than consolidation or withdrawal.

Many different ideas have come up over the last year. Let's bring them up and air them out, and we may find some way to ease the burden that some (or all) of our towns are feeling. There are school board members who are willing to work on this, and I have high hopes that we will be able to resolve, or at least compromise, over our differences and find a way forward that is comfortable to most.

Let's talk!

MAY CLARK is a former ConVal parent, School Board member and chair, and principal at Dublin Consolidated School.



Live life on your terms at RiverMead, the Monadnock Region's premier Life Plan Community (CCRC), while we take care of the rest. Take advantage of our on-campus trails, gardens, and riverfront. Take a course or attend a lecture. Focus on your wellness in our fitness center and indoor pool.

RIVERMEAD VISIT RIVERMEAD.ORG



For generations, MCH has been a pillar of the communities we serve. Today, our expert clinical team provides comprehensive health services from Primary Care to Specialty Medicines, Minimally Invasive Surgery, a state-of-the-art Birthing Suite, Emergency Services, and more.

Medical Services

- Primary Care
- OB/GYN & Birthing Care • 24-Hour Emergency Care • Surgical Services
- Orthopedics
- Rehabilitation & Wellness
 Oncology
- Gastroenterology
 - Cardiology and MORE!

Laboratory Services

Rheumatology

How can we care for you?

452 Old Street Road | Peterborough, NH 03458 | 603-924-7191 | MonadnockHospital.org

No Longer a Parent of School-Aged Children...My Perspective

BY JAY SCHECHTER

The Dublin Education Advisory Committee focused on the quality of education our children are receiving. We discovered that test scores are significantly below ConVal's goal, and there is no plan to improve them.

Finances at ConVal are very challenging, with declining enrollment and increasing costs. There is no plan to address these costs after the failure to close our school. The increase in costs will continue.

The Articles of Agreement, which bind Dublin to ConVal, are extremely prejudicial to our town's interests. This formula currently commits Dublin to paying more per pupil than any other town in the district. Attempts to change these articles have failed many times. The other towns do not want to give up the subsidy we are providing to them.

Withdrawal will cost us our representative on the ConVal School Board. Having one vote out of 13 does not earn us much respect. A tuition agreement would give Dublin much more control over our children's education. The Dublin Consolidated School would be run by a Dublin School Board composed of Dublin citizens giving us *local* control.

Dublin has never received any official notice from the school board that closing our school is no longer under consideration. It is important to note that the current school board cannot commit future boards.

The ConVal Feasibility Committee spent a significant amount of time creating a two-page report for the New Hampshire State Board of Education. Your volunteer group submitted a minority report with 80 pages of data. The state board unanimously rejected ConVal's argument that it was "neither feasible or suitable" for Dublin to withdraw. They unanimously accepted our report and ordered that a vote be held this March.

There are always additional questions that could have been answered. What we do know for sure is that we are spending an enormous amount of money to obtain mediocre educational outcomes. Local control, along with a negotiated tuition agreement, gives Dublin the opportunity for a significant improvement in education along with a focus on cost control.

The choice is now yours. Your Select Board and the Dublin Education Advisory Committee urge you to vote YES for Articles 7 and 8 on March 11.

JAY SCHECHTER was the chair of the former Dublin Education Advisory Committee.

Vote for Better Education and Lower Taxes

BY CHRIS SPRAGUE

Join the Dublin Select Board and the New Hampshire State Board of Education in supporting an independent Dublin elementary school. The chair of the state board remarked that the Dublin Educational Advisory Committee (DEAC) report was "among the best withdrawal reports they had ever seen." You can review their findings, which make a strong case, on the town website.

The DEAC concluded that "the quality of education provided by ConVal fails to meet its own goals. Test scores in reading, math, and science are significantly below the standards our committee finds acceptable."

The Dublin Select Board unanimously recommended withdrawal from Con-Val and the creation of a Dublin School District. They understand that the current economics make no "cents." Dublin's apportionment is now \$5.4 million, with the highest cost per student in the system at \$37,497.60. The actual cost per student is around \$27,000. Our taxes fund out-oftown students.

The logic is clear. Your YES vote will help:

- regain local control of education and finances
- create opportunities to enrich the education received by all Dublin students
- make ConVal education stronger in the upper grades as an equal partner
- provide the best services for Dublin families, parents, and students
- attract new families to Dublin with our commitment to schools

This is your chance to regain control of our taxes, fund better schools locally, and provide an education for our children that we can all be proud of.

CHRIS SPRAGUE is a resident of Dublin.

The philosophy of the school room in one generation will be the philosophy of government in the next. – Abraham Lincoln



ALAN EDELKIND is Dublin's outgoing ConVal School Board representative.

MARCH 2025

Background on the Energy Warrant Article

BY SUSAN PETERS

Over the past few years, the Dublin Energy Committee has been exploring municipal solar opportunities. In July 2024, we applied to the New Hampshire Department of Energy for a municipal solar grant for an array on the fire station roof. In November, we learned that Dublin's application was approved, with kickoff scheduled for April 2025. The grant will provide \$43,843 in funding, with the town contributing \$1,500 to cover permitting costs.

Another option we have been exploring is a possible ground solar array in the area of the capped landfill behind the transfer station. Important siting factors include topography and environmental conditions, proximity of neighboring properties, sun exposure, array size, distance to threephase power, installation and maintenance costs, and leasing vs. owning. In November, we held a joint site visit with the Conservation Commission to look at environmental conditions, including trees, wildlife corridors, wetlands, and other features. We have consulted with UNH county foresters and town forester Swift Corwin.

Any proposed project needs to be fully vetted through consultation with professionals and the community engagement process. Energy committee meetings and site visits are open to the public, but we understand that people are busy. To better gauge community interest, we have proposed a warrant article: "To see whether there is community interest in exploring a possible ground solar array on a portion of the town's property on Cobb Meadow Road, Map 7, Lot 70, and to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000) for a preliminary electrical

The town of Dublin would like to acknowledge Hank Campbell for his many years of service to the town as Superintendent of the Cemetery. We all wish him well in his retirement and thank him for helping to maintain this beautiful space. The town welcomes Francis McKenna as the new superintendent. Hank will be helping him learn the ropes! interconnection application, to come from the Energy Capital Reserve Fund."

The Energy Committee and Select Board are looking for community input. A positive vote at Town Meeting would be followed by further study and more public meetings. There are many questions relating to siting, array size, cost and financing, and environmental and neighborhood impact. The town has been approached by several prospective solar developers. If a project were to move forward, selection of a developer would be subject to the request for proposal bid process. Please consider supporting this ongoing process with your vote at Town Meeting.

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

Many residents think that school board

representatives attend only two meetings a

mittees and subcommittees integral to the

commitment, and study. I, for instance, am

vice chair of the school board, chair of the

communications committee, and a member

A school board member must remember

of three other active committees. I aver-

age 50-60 hours a week on school board

whom he/she represents: the residents of

the town that elected or appointed them

and the ConVal School District, within the

constraints of federal, state, and local regu-

lations. One learns quickly that everyone

A great example was the consolida-

responsibility because it was obvious that

our town could be affected. We hired an

unbiased outside company (Prismatic) to

sis with the caveat that we would take an

additional year, with town involvement,

be closed and in what sequence. I had

no doubt that the warrant article would

be defeated, and I wanted it postponed

for a year. Despite some misunderstand-

ings around the consolidation vote, I am

gratified that the community has appreci-

ated other initiatives that have taken place

to determine which schools, if any, would

The board accepted Prismatic's analy-

tion issue. I was chair of the committee

responsible for the study. I took on the

cannot always be pleased, accept that, and

activities and enjoy it immensely.

keep priorities in order.

do the required analysis.

month. This is not true. There are com-

workings of the board that involve time,

The Job of a ConVal School Board Member

BY ALAN EDELKIND

It has been an honor and privilege to represent our town for the past five years as our school board representative. I have decided not to seek a new term. My reasons for this decision are personal and positive. Service on the school board is very intense as well as rewarding. There are so many things to learn, especially if one does not come from an educational discipline.

I was appointed to serve out the remaining two years of a three-year term of the town's then-current elected school board representative. I was subsequently elected to serve a full three-year term.

There are 13 ConVal school board representatives who represent nine diverse towns. There are only a few requirements to becoming a school board representative: You must be a resident of the town you are representing, and you must be elected by town residents or appointed by town officials. That's it.

There are no educational or work-related requirements. Experience doesn't matter. Each representative has their own agenda that hopefully coincides with the town they represent. Each town's agenda can materially differ from another town's. There are many processes, rules, and procedures that must be followed and many federal, state, and local regulations (that sometimes conflict) to take into account.

Working positively with other school board members is a must. Everything is decided by majority vote, and there are many diverse opinions. Each representative needs to balance their non-school board obligations with school board requirements. Some representatives have employment concerns. Some are retired or work part time.

News from DCS

BY NICOLE PEASE

The month of February was all about kindness. Grade 1–2 teacher Heather Fletcher wrote: "Chief Suokko kicked off Kindness Month for us by reading the book *Ordinary Mary's Extraordinary Deed*, by Emily Pearson, to our K–2 students. It's a wonderful book about how one act of kindness can spread exponentially. Mary's extraordinary deed began with passing a bowl of blueberries to a neighbor, who then baked blueberry muffins and shared

them with five friends. Now, K–2 is on a mission to spread kindness throughout our Dublin community. Two plates decorated with hearts are currently circulating in Dublin with instructions to enjoy what's on the plate, replenish it, and pass it along. We have received several emails with pictures of very happy recipients, and the students are *thrilled* to see the kindness spreading. So be on the lookout for our heart-decorated plates. And if you don't happen to see



Chief Suokko visited DCS for Kindness Month.

them, feel free to spread your own kindness around our amazing town. It will help pass the long winter doldrums!"

March often brings more consistent learning time as spring is on the horizon, and snow days move into the rear-view mirror. DCS is looking forward to the One School, One Book event. Through the support of the DCS PTO, each family receives a copy of the same book to read throughout a two-week period. DCS staff plan many activities that connect to the book and deepen the experience and understanding. Last year, teachers Heather Fletcher and Deb Lang developed a scavenger hunt throughout Dublin for families to enjoy, and it is in the works for that to happen again.

This is a wonderful example of the focus-on-community connections that DCS values. We continue to seek out ways to embrace our community through field trips, adult reading buddies, read-alouds in classrooms, and more. Please remember to vote

on March 11 and to come to Town Meeting on March 15 beginning at 9 am. Park at Yankee and take the bus to DCS.

Kindergartners are wanted! If you have, or know of, a child who will be five years old before September 30, please contact DCS or the SAU at 603-924-3336. We welcome visitors to our wonderful school; please just give a call first 563-8332.

NICOLE PEASE is principal teacher at Dublin Consolidated School.





THE DUBLIN ADVOCATE may be found online and in color at WWW.DUBLINADVOCATE.COM

March 2025 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, Fridays, via Zoom at 10 am

Song Circle, Sunday, March 2

ll are welcome at Song Circle, which The meets the first Sunday of each month from 3-5 pm. 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, and your instrument if you have one, including your voice! If you don't have a printer, please send a printable version by the previous Friday to David Mueller at dmueller55146@ amail.com.

Spring Vision Board Workshop, Saturday, March 8

rom 2–4 pm, join us for an inspiring, Γ joyful afternoon, as we create our own unique vision boards. This workshop will be taught by Donni Webber, an artist, Wisdom Guide, and wellness advocate; and Louise Crooks, an artist, Visibility Biz Coach, and wellness advocate. Both live locally and are excited to share this creative journey of manifestation with you!

After a powerful guided meditation, your unconscious mind helps you to envision your future. Then we dive into putting together a collage of images representing

where you'd like your life to go. It's so much fun. It's calming, de-stressing, and peaceful – all the things we need right now.

For ages 18 and up, fee of \$35 includes all materials. To sign up, e-mail louisecrooksa6m1n@gmail.com.

Ping-Pong at the DubHub, Saturday, March 8 and 22

ome to the DubHub from 2–4 pm to play some ping-pong! We are looking for players of high school age or older who are interested in social and/or competitive play, and we have a handful of players ready to go! We'd like to discuss the possibility of playing on the second and fourth Saturday of every month and perhaps a town tournament in the spring. This initiative is organized by Chris Sprague and Rebecca Welsh.

Herb Class with Katherine Gekas, Tuesday, March 11

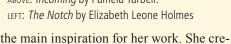
his class on the second Tuesday of every month at 7 pm is an opportunity to learn about how herbs can help you get, and stay, healthy. This month, we will learn about herbs for the nervous system, and we'll make an oxymel, an ancient tonic. People will go home with a sample and a handout with information 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.

Art Show Reception, Friday, March 14

11 are invited to the DubHub from 5-7 pm to attend a reception featuring the Apaintings of Pamela Tarbell and Elizabeth Leone Holmes.

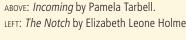
Pamela R. Tarbell focuses on creating visual color vibrations in her paintings, exploring different subject matter with bright, complicated compositions. Based in Concord, New Hampshire, she is a graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design and is a United States Art Embassy Artist. As a painter, educator, and advocate, she strives to create art that feeds the soul, tells a story, and always leaves you with something new to enjoy or discover. See her website at pamtarbell.com.

Elizabeth Leone Holmes is an outdoor/ plein air oil painter with a passion for nature – the seasons, weather, and light are



ates paintings to remind us of the splendor of our environment. She explores the New England landscape throughout the seasons, from its mountains to the smallest rocks in rivers and creeks. She is a juried member of the New Hampshire Art Association. See her website at holmesartstudio.com.

This show will remain up through Wednesday, April 2, and can be viewed during DubHub open hours and by appointment. Email info@dublincommunitycenter.org for inquiries.





Red Cross Blood Drive, Saturday, March 15

The Red Cross will conduct a blood drive at the DubHub from 9 am-1 pm. To make an appointment to give blood, go to www.redcrossblood.org.

Coffee House & Open Mic, Saturday, March 15

On 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 reschedule Wendy Keith & Her Alleged Band, who were cancelled due to snow in February. Wendy will be performing



Wendy Keith & Her Alleged Band

original and classic cover songs with the talented Jack Henry and Doug Farrell. They have been performing together for years, bringing tasteful harmonies and top-notch musicianship with songs meant to touch the heart.

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 offset costs, and a hat will be passed during the performance for contributions to the featured performer(s).

Herbal Office Hours, Tuesday, March 18

On the third Tuesday of the month, Katherine Gekas will hold herbal office hours from 4–6 pm in the small room at the Dublin Community Center. Herbal office hours are 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).

Free Meditation Group, Tuesday, March 18

This free meditation group will be offered every third Tuesday of the month by Jess Nelson, a Certified Insight Meditation teacher, from 6:15–7:30 pm in the South Room of the DubHub. Each month, we will take some time to explore how meditation can help support us, practice together with a guided meditation, check in, ask questions, and connect with each other. This offering is free and open to anyone, no experience necessary. You can find more information at www. theartoflivingthislife.com, or feel free to reach out to Jess with questions: theartoflivingthislife@gmail.com.

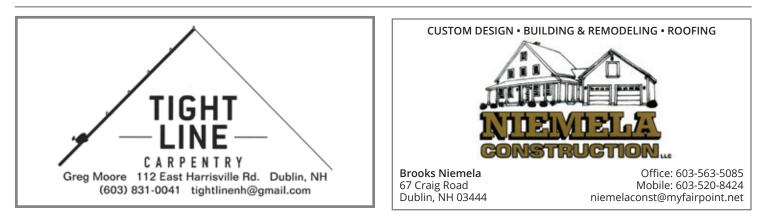
Storytelling & Spoken Word Circle, Wednesday, March 19

On the third Wednesday of every month from 6:30–8:30 pm, there is an open mic to share stories, poetry, rap, comedy, or truly any kind of spoken word, going round the circle. 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.

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.

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 (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.



MARCH 2025

News from the Planning Board

BY ARCHIE MCINTYRE

The Dublin Planning Board is present-**L** ing a warrant article on the ballot in the upcoming annual town election on March 11. The article proposes relaxing dimensional restrictions for building lots in the Village District by reducing minimum lot size from one acre to 35,000 square feet and reducing the side and rear setbacks to 15 feet. (An acre is 43,560 square feet, so this equates to a 19% reduction in lot size.) The current front setback of 35 feet and the frontage requirement of 150 feet will remain. Other requirements for a buildable lot, including adequate water and sewer and compliance with wetlands regulations, also remain unchanged.

These minor adjustments are meant to encourage housing development in the Village District, including making it easier to accommodate Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) on smaller lots. The article has the unanimous support of the Planning Board.

Over the past year, the Dublin Planning Board has been exploring ways to increase housing options for the residents of Dublin. The findings of the Housing Opportunity Program (HOP) study undertaken in 2023 by professional planners and

the HOP committee formed by the Planning Board demonstrated a clear need and desire for additional affordable housing options in the town. Citizen participation in HOP public working groups also indicated that concentrating housing opportunities in the Village District to help preserve the town's rural character was a high priority.

As a first step, the Planning Board proposed revisions to the ADU language, allowing for one additional unit on lots meeting the minimum lot size requirements applicable to all districts. A warrant article on the March 2024 ballot that revised the ADU regulations was approved. The current warrant article, reducing dimensional requirements in the Village District, further advances the priorities identified in the HOP study.

Four residents have filed papers for the four open positions on the Planning Board. Once the new board is seated, we will prioritize our work for the upcoming year: modifications to the zoning ordinance to clarify regulations around development near wetlands; establishing reasonable short-term rental options; and furthering housing opportunities in the Village District. We welcome public participation as we consider possible changes. The Planning Board meets the first and third Thursdays of every month. The agenda for each upcoming meeting is posted on the town website the Tuesday before the meeting.

If you have any questions relating to the warrant article on the town ballot or other town planning issues, please feel free to contact me at archie.mcintyre@gmail.com.

ARCHIE MCINTYRE is chair of the Planning Board.

The perfect excuse to come out and eat!

Home-cooked community supper 4th Tuesday of each month.

March 25 • 5:30–7 pm Spaghetti and meatballs (or plain sauce), salad, Italian bread, dessert.

ALL ARE WELCOME! In the meeting hall of the Dublin Community Church. *Hope to see you there!* General info: 860-574-4235



Artificial Intelligence: The Next Classroom Helper?

BY AVERY DELWORTH

Most people know there are concerns about Artificial Intelligence (AI) being used in education, including the potential for biased algorithms and inaccurate information. Despite these concerns, could AI be used to benefit students in the classroom?

Some sources say yes. Not only can it help students directly, but it can also help them indirectly by helping their teachers. At Stanford University, different uses of AI in education are being tested. They say that AI can be used as a "practice student" for new teachers so they know what to do in an actual classroom environment, helping these teachers avoid errors that could hinder students' learning. It can also help experienced teachers by giving them a way to communicate with students individually, something that is hard in many bigger schools.

Outside of the classroom, students can continue to benefit from AI use. AI is nonjudgmental, so if students have a question they feel too embarrassed to ask in front of their class, they can ask AI. This allows them to engage in their learning, where they might not in the classroom environment.

I interviewed a Dublin student who said that they have used AI and feel that it can be beneficial for students when used properly. For problems that the student is struggling with, they have asked AI how to do the problem. "It broke down the problem for me and put it step by step."

Of course, this should be done only

Kids Helping End 68

Once again, End 68 Hours of Hunger is honored to have the support not just of local adults but also of kids. Mountain Shadows School demonstrated that beautifully in February. In addition to assembling literally hundreds of Valentine's

Day treats to go home in our weekend food bags, students also ran a food drive – and collected 136 items! Thanks so much to all involved.

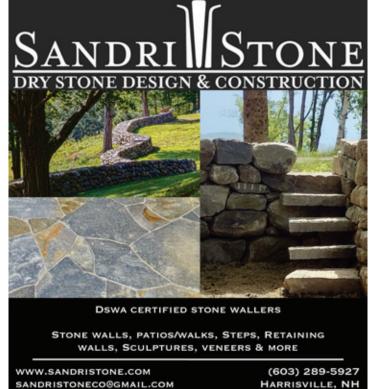
Our weekend deliveries are still way up over last year, so donations of Saltines, Ritz crackers, mac and cheese, ramen, and nutrition bars – items that won't freeze – when a teacher is unavailable. The student said they used AI like this when still confused after a teacher explanation, but they prefer teacher instruction. Teachers should give students the opportunity to analyze AI-generated answers and learn how to phrase the questions they ask. Embracing AI in the classroom will help students in the end, and giving proper guidance will prevent them from misusing it.

AVERY DELWORTH is a junior at the Dublin School.



are always needed. We're also once again in need of Market Basket plastic grocery bags. All of the above can be left at the west-side entrance of the Dublin Community Church.

Thank you so much for your continued support as we feed growing numbers of food-insecure kids!



March into Spring Deliciously!

With over 80 flavors of oil and vinegar and 600 + recipes on our website.



The Long Tradition of D.D.Bean & Sons Co.

BY RUSTY BASTEDO

D.D.Bean & Sons Co., Jaffrey's first generation of Bean family match makers, began operating in June 1938. Delcie D. Bean Sr. (1883–1964) had been a part of the New England "farm to forest harvest" economy all his life, and making wooden matches from white pine and other trees was something he and his two sons, Vernon and Delcie Jr., knew how to do. The big issue, for the Beans and for dozens of other match makers, was to find a match head that would reliably "light" in all kinds of weather conditions. With the onset of World War II, the federal government helped solve the lighting issue.

In the 1930s, the Bean family decided to concentrate on making paper matches rather than wooden ones. Paper was made from detritus – branches from wooden logs – and was cheaper to manufacture. In addition, paper "book matches" could carry advertising on their covers, helping to cover manufacturing costs.

The Bean family purchased an empty Jaffrey textile mill during the Great Depression of the 1930s and invested in used papermaking equipment. They began manufacturing paper matches in June 1938.

On September 21, 1938, the largest hurricane in American history roared up the American coast, unremarked upon by the U.S. Weather Service until too late. Downtown Providence, Rhode Island, was under a storm surge of 13 feet of sea water, and at Boston Navy Yard, the ship "Old Ironsides" was torn from its moorings. Preceded by days of torrential rains, a part of the storm went up the Connecticut River Valley, destroying parts of Connecticut and western



Massachusetts and moving on to the Green Mountains of Vermont. In southern New Hampshire, 1,000 square miles of forest lands were destroyed; in Rindge, an estimated 90% of all 6-inch-diameter trees were blown down. The rivers that supplied factories in Peterborough and other Monadnock Region towns burst their banks, washing away railroad tracks and roads.

The records set by the 1938 hurricane have been written up by Stephen Long, whose book Thirty-Eight: the Hurricane That Transformed New England (New Haven: Yale Press, 2016) ought to be a part of every Monadnock region library. Mr. Long has delineated the swift and effective U.S. Government response to the disaster, with the Roosevelt administration's creation of a new agency, the Northeastern Timber Salvage Administration. Milling procedures for an estimated 1.25 billion board feet, and storage under roofs built to federal specifications, were put into place. By federal order, old closed New England sawmills were opened. Cleanup of fallen branches and damaged logs threatened massive forest fires, and new forest workers were hired by the federal government agency.

Stephen Long estimates that "The hurri-

cane blew down the equivalent of 430,000 truckloads of timber." (One modern-day truckload of timber equals 6,000 board feet of timber.)

The D.D. Bean family was perfectly positioned to benefit from the 1938 Hurricane's damages, and from the new Federal agency, the Northeastern Timber Salvage Administration, set up to clean up the enormous damage done to our part of New England. As the owners of an operating mill, the family benefited from the vast supplies of broken timber available. As a maker of paper matches, rather than wooden matches, the family could process into pulp the detritus of broken trees and limbs. Labor familiar with work in New England forests streamed to the Jaffrey mill, with pay – a rare commodity in the 1930s - guaranteed by the new Federal agency. And the Bean family's decision to produce paper matches has continued to this day, with more than 40 million matchbooks produced annually, including by factories in places other than Jaffrey.

Today, D.D.Bean of Jaffrey has combined with Atlas Match (Texas) and Eddy Match (Canada) to be the leading producer of paper matchbooks and related products in the match-making industry. A third generation of the Bean family runs and operates the company now; the old textile mill that was purchased in 1938 is still extant; and housing for many D.D.Bean & Sons employees is nearby. RUSTY BASTEDO is the NH State Curator 1997–2009

(retired), and is on the staff of the *Advocate*.

Dublin remembers Esther Brooks 1925-2025



Back Home to Dublin

BY KIM ALLIS

Georgia Wright is a sixth-generation descendent of the "first permanent settler of the Town of Dublin," Captain Thomas Morse. He moved his family

from Massachusetts in 1762 "to a historic farmhouse on Old Marlborough Road," according to Wikipedia. The entry includes a nice photo of the Dublin Lake Club Golf Clubhouse, with the notation, "It appears to have been torn down and replaced by a more modern structure."

Georgia was born in Keene and went to various local schools (where she was known as "Bigi"), eventually graduating from Con-Val in 1980. Her peripatetic educational ways led her to California, where she graduated from the San Francisco Art Institute. She earned a bachelor's degree in new genres, a cross-disciplinary approach to art that encouraged students to be environmentally and socially conscious. Georgia developed a trauma-informed yoga practice, which she took to inmates in juvenile detention and county jails. Along with yoga, she incorporated "singing bowls," both Tibetan and crystal, into her therapy. She also had a day job as a tech systems administrator.

After retirement, Georgia's thoughts returned to Dublin. The family house on



Georgia Wright with her singing bowls.

Lake Road was still in use by her siblings and their families. She and her brothers wanted their mother, who had been living near Georgia in California, to return to Dublin. Here she could spend time with her children and grandchildren and get the care she needed. She is now settled in Spring Village at Summerhill in Peterborough.

Georgia found land on Windmill Hill Road, which has the windmill on it – a tall but delicate structure of metal that is hardly visible among the hemlocks. Perhaps it will be restored one day. In the

> meantime, Georgia worked with architect Katie Sutherland and builder Caleb Niemela to create a thoughtful, inspirational environment that fits her into the landscape: The house lies like a shadow before the bulk of Monadnock beyond. Inside, there is harmony among the dedicated spaces and the gently framed views of the trees and hills and, of course, the mountain. There is also a separate room for the pastel-colored crystal bowls and other instruments she uses in her practice. The project

was a long time coming, almost two years, given the uncertainties of New England weather. But finally it was done, and she moved into her new house in June of last year.

Welcome back, Georgia Wright. KIM ALLIS is on the staff of the *Advocate*.



Update on the Community-Supported Peace Pole

BY KATHERINE GEKAS

As first announced in the January issue of the *Advocate*, a group of Dublin citizens is working to erect a communitysupported Peace Pole in town. We are hoping for support at Town Meeting on March 15. The proposed four-sided granite pole will serve as a reminder to cultivate peace within ourselves and our community. The proposed site is in the area near the bench between the library and the Town Hall, adjacent to the parking lot. This is a visible and accessible place where people can comfortably gather.

The language of the warrant article reads: "To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,230 to engrave and install a granite peace pole with 'May Peace Prevail on Earth'

engraved in different languages. The cost of this project will come from taxation." We've estimated that the cost would be about \$4 per household.

The Dublin Advocate

Our intention is to share a project where we can come together as a community. For example, committee members, along with Nicole Pease (DCS principal teacher), have already started to imagine many ways students can learn about and reach out to other community members, from deciding which languages are chosen to learning about people around the world and right here in our local community. For such a small cost, each Dubliner can join in their own way and appreciate, in some way, that they have committed to working toward peace.

The group behind this effort consists of

Nourishing Peace Through Understanding

Five Local Speakers Share Religious Traditions

BY TRACEYMAY KALVAITIS

Wishing for a more peaceful world is a good start, but what other steps can we take toward bringing about more peace in our world? One thing we can do is to learn more about the things that are common sources of disagreement and division. Differences in religion continue to be a major cause of tension and strife, even though many religions share common tenets. Could developing a deeper understanding help us to respect our differences and treat one another with kindness and consideration?

For the following five Wednesdays in Lent, Dublin Community Church will once again host lunchtime speakers from

11 am-noon in the church hall. Bring a bag lunch. Coffee, juice, and water will be provided. Check the church website, DublinChurch.org, for updates and in cases of inclement weather.

March 12: Hinduism March 19: Church of Christ, Scientist March 26: Daoism April 2: Abenaki April 9: Worship in the Wild

"Peace is highly complex but fundamentally simple. At its core, peace is quite simply a function of how members of different groups mutually treat one another."

– Peter T. Coleman, Columbia Teachers College TRACEYMAY KALVAITIS is the pastor of the Dublin Community Church.

Colorectal Cancer Seminar at MCH

Toin Monadnock Community Hospital on Thursday, March 27, at 5:30 pm for an educational seminar titled "Colorectal Cancer Awareness and Prevention," led by Dr. Michael J. Gilbert, a dedicated gastroenterologist. In alignment with Colorectal Cancer Awareness month, the session will address crucial information on colorectal cancer risk factors, early detection methods, and proactive lifestyle choices for prevention.

This seminar will highlight risk factors such as diet, family history, and age, while also providing actionable tips to improve colorectal health.

Dr. Gilbert is known for his expertise in gastroenterology and is passionate about empowering patients to make healthy decisions.

Space is limited. Register at MCH.EventBrite.com to secure your place at this seminar.

Bruce Fox, Don Primrose, Zach Redler, Marsha Whitney, Traceymay Kalvaitis, Balmeet Lasky, and Katherine Gekas. If you see them around town, ask them about it. Or call Balmeet at 603-203-6673 or Katherine at 207-664-9200 for more information and/or to be included. All are welcome!

KATHERINE GEKAS is a Dublin resident.

The Fate of My Resolutions

BY JEANNE STERLING

e're now into the third month of the new year. How're those resolutions doing out there? Keeping them? I've made resolutions many times in my life. Did I keep the promise I made to myself for a whole year? Not a chance!

January 1 enters our lives with a bittersweet welcome. We can be bitter over some events of the previous year, or we can enjoy the sweetness of the opportunity to try again.

Common resolutions are to lose weight or to stop smoking, drinking, or overspending - or to organize closets, drawers, paperwork, and the excess of dust collectors throughout the house. This last one is difficult for me because I really like my stuff!

One year, I resolved to read the owner's manual for my car. I bought the car in 2015 but have read only one paragraph on how to set the clock. I also planned to read manuals for appliances. That didn't happen either. Seems that not until something goes belly-up do I panic and look for the manual in my disorganized desk drawer, filing cabinet, or junk drawer. Those files labeled with the contents prove to be empty. I guess I neglected to return the contents to their folders. Where are they? I honestly don't know. But the benefit of my resolution to organize will be a win-win situation, keeping me occupied and away from "boredom eating" and playing games on my phone.

I'm all set to go! However, now I need to buy a new planner, tape for my label maker, and burgundy-colored file folders to match those I have. My OCD has kicked in. No time to organize today; I have to go shopping!

JEANNE STERLING is on the staff of the Advocate.

Why Did the Turtle Cross the Road?

BY BROOKE SULLIVAN

s a child growing up in Greenfield, AI remember a small migration of painted turtles crossing the roads in the spring. They would leave the safety of their swamp for the sand pits nearby, where they would make nests for their clutch of eggs. As an adult, I see this happening less and less. Due largely to threatened wetland habitat, turtle populations have been declining globally for years. New Hampshire has seven native species, over half of which are in danger: Blanding's turtle (endangered), eastern box turtle (endangered), spotted turtle (threatened), and wood turtle (conservation concern), in addition to the snapping turtle, painted turtle, and musk turtle.

As wetland buffer areas are encroached upon or destroyed, the options for an already-dwindling turtle population to find nesting grounds are disappearing. Not only are turtles forced to cross more roadways, but they often don't find a suitable nesting site where they once did, forcing them to wander farther and across more treacherous terrain. One study by New Hampshire Fish & Game wildlife biologist Josh Megyesy tracked a female Blanding's turtle in Durham and determined that she wandered a whole mile to find her nesting ground. After this harrowing journey, she had to travel all the way back, and if her clutch wasn't destroyed, her babies had to navigate an equally long journey to suitable habitat.

As we head toward spring, there are a few easy things we can all do to help Dublin's turtle population as they begin their breeding season. First, if you see a turtle crossing the road, you can help it by moving it across in the direction it was heading. Don't put it back; it will just leave to cross the road again as it searches for a nesting site! Second, if you see a turtle, endangered species or not, please report it to NH Fish & Game at nhwildlifesightings.unh.edu. The data they collect helps direct attention and funding where needed across the state. Dublin, for example, has no record of wood turtles being present, and yet they have been reported in every



surrounding town. They are likely here but unreported. Finally, if you find an injured turtle on the road, you can seek help at nhturtlerescue.org. Turtles live amazingly long lives (some up to 75 years), and shells can heal with rehabilitation.

BROOKE SULLIVAN is a member of the Conservation Commission.

Dublin remembers Vera Elder 1930-2025



High Horse to Perform in Hancock

Music on Norway Pond in Hancock welcomes back the exciting progressive-acoustic string band High Horse on Sunday, March 2, at 4 pm in Hancock's Meetinghouse. Known for their unique blend of bluegrass, old-time, and Celtic music infused with the energy of alternative rock, this band of four friends, three bows, and one pick delivers a rollicking romp of great vibes, virtuosic chops, and tight vocals.

Comprised of fiddler Carson McHaney, cellist Karl Henry,



guitarist G Rockwell, and bassist Noah Harrington, the band draws from their varied musical backgrounds to explore and perform original compositions and tunes from diverse folk traditions.

High Horse is based in Boston and draws on the skills and artistry derived

from their education at the Berklee College of Music and New England Conservatory.

For tickets, see musiconnorwaypond.org. Adults are \$30, students and kids are free – and any adult who brings a kid gets in free as well.

Family owned and operated since 1985.

We have three locations: Keene, NH,

Brattleboro, VT, and Essex Junction, VT.

Please reach out for any sales or service needs.

We're here to help you.

www.cocoplumappliances.com 540 Main Street, Keene, NH 03431 800-235-7337

COCOPLUM

APPLIANCES

Town Warrant Articles continued from page 3

Article 13: To raise and appropriate the sum of \$11,000 to be contributed to various expendable trust funds, previously established to come from taxation: Revaluation (\$10,000), Master Plan (\$1,000).

(Recommended by the Select Board and the Budget Committee)

Article 14: To determine community interest in exploring a possible ground solar array on a portion of the town's property on Cobb Meadow Road, Map 7, Lot 70, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,000 for a preliminary electrical interconnection application, to come from the Energy Capital Reserve Fund. (See discussion on page 8.)

(Recommended by the Select Board and the Budget Committee)

Article 15: To raise and appropriate \$3,300 to repair and paint windows at the library building, to come from the Library Major Repair & Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund.

(Recommended by the Select Board and the Budget Committee)

Article 16: To see if the town will vote to accept Spruce RidgeDrive as a public way (Class V road) and further to maintainthis way.(Submitted by petition)

Article 17: To raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,230 to engrave and install a granite peace pole with "May Peace Prevail on Earth" engraved in different languages. The cost for this project will come from taxation. (See discussion on page 16.)

(Submitted by petition)

REE CARE

Article 18: To hear the reports of agents, auditors, and committees and to pass any related vote.



KING PINE

SPECIALIZING IN TREE HEALTH, TREE PRESERVATION, WIND/SNOW LOAD PRUNING & HAZARDOUS REMOVALS

NEW SERVICE: EXCAVATOR FORESTRY MULCHER

WWW.SANDRICOMPANIES.COM KINGPINETREESERVICE@GMAIL.COM (603) 289-5927 HARRISVILLE, NH

2025 Candidates continued from page 5

Trustee of Trust Fund (1 *position)* **Nina Anderson** – No statement provided.

Cemetery Trustee (1-year term, 1 position) **Blake Anderson** – No statement provided.

Cemetery Trustee (3-year term, 1 position)

Kiki Sangermano – I was born and brought up in Dublin. The Dublin Cemetery has always been one of the loveliest places in town, with the amazing stone walls, trees, and plants, including beautiful groups of mountain laurel. The various monuments are very interesting. I hope to maintain the beauty of the cemetery.

Library Trustee (2 positions)

Ramona Branch – I came to Dublin 21 years ago from Houston, Texas, with my husband Jerry. Before moving to Dublin, I ran my own marketing company and was editor of *Houston's Best* maga-



zine. Many Dubliners know me from my local volunteer work and southern accent. My community involvement has been very satisfying as a Friend of the Dublin Public Library; 12 years as a writer and photographer on the staff of *The Dublin Advocate*; four years as chair of the Dublin Recreation Department (coordinating community-wide events such as the Christmas Tree lighting

and the Memorial Day veterans' luncheon), and currently as a volunteer for the Dublin Community Center.

I am an incorporator of the Cathedral of the Pines, a 78-yearold institution in Rindge devoted to honoring the service and sacrifice of America's military veterans.

I am excited about serving as library trustee and working with the dynamic and creative library staff to create fun and meaningful programs.

Yedida Landis – I have called Dublin home for the last six years along with my husband Owen and our children, Nampreet and Tobin, and a myriad of chickens, bunnies, and cats. I work as the garden teacher at Mountain Shadows School here in Dublin and am lead gardener for MacDowell in





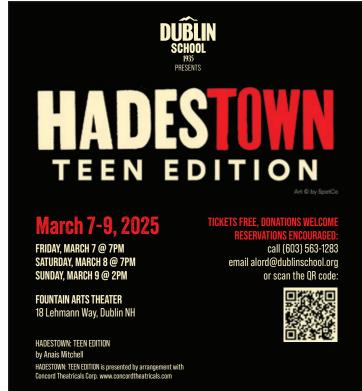
Peterborough. I am dedicated to community and believe in the power of a library to be a center for commonality as well as learning. As a trustee of the DPL, my main hopes are to support the staff in their endeavors and to help make long-term plans so the library can continue to thrive.

ConVal District Representative (1 position)

John Wood – I have lived in Dublin for the past three years with my wife and three sons (ages 22, 11, and 9). I retired from the US Marine Corps in 2014 and have worked in the software technology industry since my retirement.

Over the past two years, I have spent countless hours researching and learning the history of the ConVal School District and changes that have been made over the past 58 years. I have spoken with former and current teachers, administrators, and community members in Dublin and the other towns in the district. It is my goal to provide an unbiased picture of education matters for our community.

As a representative to the school board for Dublin, my opinion would be a minority opinion that will not overshadow the will of the Dublin community. My representation will always align with what is best for Dublin and the students within the Dublin community. Across the country, school districts are having some difficult discussions about the financial and educational viability of our public education system. This is also true within the ConVal School District. This must be done with thoughtful and respectful discussion and inclusion of community members. There will be some hard choices that need to be made for the best possible outcome, and we must present this information accurately and in an unbiased format so that the entire community is as well-informed as possible.



MARCH 2025 Calendar						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2HUB Song Circle 3-5pm; Hancock Mtghouse MONP concert 4pm	3TH Cem Trustees 9am; Select Board 4:30pm; HUB Coff & Conv 10am-noon; Yoga 3-4:15pm, DPL Make/ Take, Creative Club 3:30-4:30pm; Teen Crafts/Homework Club; Math Tutor 3:30-5pm	4HUB Yoga 6:30- 7:30am; Open 9am-3pm; DPL Creative Club, Teen Crafts/Homework Club; Dublin GOP 5:30pm; TH Pre-Town Meeting 7pm	5HUB Coff & Conv 10am-noon; QiGong noon-1pm; DPL Stories with Opa 10:30am, StoryTime/Homeschool Grp 10:30am; Teen Crafts/Homework Club; Math Tutor 3:30-5pm	6 DPL Creative Club 3:30-4:30pm; Teen Crafts/Homework Club; Bridge Club 4:30pm; TH Planning Board 6pm	7HUB /Zoom Knit w/ Nancy 10-11am; DS "Hadestown" 7pm	1 TH Final Education Forum 10am; Supv of Checklist 11am Board 2-4pm; Ping Pong 2-4pm; DPL Dublin Dems 10am; DS "Hadestown" 7pm
ODAYLIGHT SAVING BEGINS DS "Hadestown" 2pm	10HUB Coff & Conv 10am-noon; Yoga 3-4:15pm; DPL Mindfulness 2pm; Make/Take, Creative Club 3:30-4:30pm; Teen Crafts/Homework Club; Math Tutor 3:30- 5pm; Hist Soc 4pm; TH Select Board 4:30pm	1 1 TH Town Election 8:30am-7pm; HUB Yoga 6:30-7:30am; Open 9am-3pm; Herb Class 7pm; D PL Creative Club 3:30- 4:30pm; Teen Crafts/ Homework Club; WM&RC 4pm; FDPL 5pm	1210am-noon; QiGong noon-1pm; DCC Hinduism 11am; DPL Creative Club 3:30pm; StoryTime/ Homeschool Grp 10:30am; Teen Crafts/ Hmwk Club; Math Tutor 3:30pm; Trustees 5pm	13 ^{DPL} Creative Club 3:30-4:30pm; Teen Crafts/Homework Club	14 ^{HUB} /Zoom Knit w/ Nancy 10-11am; Art Reception 5-7pm	15 DCS Town Meeting 9am-noon; HUB Red Cross Blood Drive 9am-1pm; Coffee House & Open Mic 6-9:30pm
16	17HUB Coff & Conv 10am-noon; Yoga 3-4:15pm; DPL Mindfulness 2pm; Make/Take, Creative Club 3:30pm; Teen Crafts/Hmwk Club; Math Tutor 3:30pm; TH Select Board 4:30pm; Cons Comm 5pm	18 HUB Yoga 6:30- 9am-3pm; Herbal Office Hours 4-6pm; Meditation Group 6:15- 7:30pm; DPL Creative Club 3:30-4:30pm; Teen Crafts/Homework Club; Tech Night 6pm	19HUB Coff & Conv 10am-noon; QiGong noon-1pm; Storytelling 6:30pm; DPL StoryTime/Home- school Grp 10:30am; Creative Club 3:30pm; Teen Crafts/Hmwk Club; Math Tutor 3:30pm; DCC Christian Sci 11am		21 HUB/Zoom Knit w/ Nancy 10-11am	22DPL Democracy Discussion Group 10am; HUB Ping Pong 2-4pm
23	24 HUB Coff & Conv 10am-noon; Yoga 3-4:15pm; DPL Mindfulness 2pm; Make/Take, Creative Club 3:30-4:30pm; Teen Crafts/Homework Club; TH Select Board 4:30pm	256:30-7:30am; Open 9am-3pm; DPL Creative Club 3:30- 4:30pm; Teen Crafts/ Homework Club; Book Club 5pm; DCC Community Supper 5:30pm	26HUB Coff & Conv 10am-noon; QiGong noon-1pm; DPL StoryTime/ Homeschool Grp 10:30am; Creative Club 3:30-4:30pm; Teen Crafts/Homework Club; Math Tutor 3:30-5pm; DCC Daoism 11am	27DPL Creative Club 3:30-4:30pm; Teen Crafts/Homework Club; MCH Colorectal Cancer 5:30pm	28 ^{HUB} /Zoom Knit W/Nancy 10-11am	29
30	31 HUB Coff & Conv 10am-noon; Yoga 3-4:15pm; DPL Make/ Take, Creative Club 3:30-4:30pm; Teen Crafts/Homework Club; Math Tutor 3:30- 4:30pm; TH Select Board 4:30pm		DCC DCS DPL Hub by Elizabeth Leone Holmes Th HUB MCH TH	Dublin Community Church Dublin Consolidated Schoo Dublin Public Library Dublin Community Center Monadnock Community H Town Hall, Dublin	ol	

MARCH 2025 Calendar

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.

The Dublin Advocate, sponsored by the town of Dublin, New Hampshire, is published monthly and is a registered nonprofit. Find us online at **DublinAdvocate.com** or **townofdublin.org**.

Co-editors: Mary Loftis, Julie Rizzo **Advertising:** Nina McIntyre, Susan Stover **Staff:** Rusty Bastedo, Ellen Bingham, Lisa Foote, Judy Mortner, Susan Peters, Sally Shonk, Jeanne Sterling

Board: Kim Allis, Jean Barden, Denise Frankoff, Lorelei Murphy

Treasurer: Susie Vogel

Production Editor: Jill Shaffer Hammond

Please mail checks to **The Dublin Advocate**, PO Box 24, Dublin, NH 03444. Thank you.

The Dublin Advocate PO Box 24

Dublin, NH 03444

PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID DUBLIN, NH PERMIT NO. 8

Occupant Dublin, NH 03444