

The Dublin Advocate

To Encourage and Strengthen Our Community

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Dublin, NH 03444

Beech Trees Face Triple Threat

BY LISA FOOTE

It has been hard to miss how deformed the leaves of many American beech trees (*Fagus grandifolia*) became this year, starting as early as May, when the leaves unfurled. The symptoms are produced by a foliar nematode called *Litylenchus crenatae* ssp. *mccannii*, which can be present by the millions in infested foliage.

The current threat involves this nematode, a microscopic worm that overwinters in beech tree buds. Because of the resultant foliar damage, widespread infestations have been dubbed “beech leaf disease,” aka BLD. BLD was first found in Ohio in 2012; by 2022, six towns in New Hampshire had recorded infestations, and by 2025, 100 towns in the state were affected. Understory trees are the most susceptible, as rain tends to wash the nematodes from the tree canopies, concentrating the infestation near the ground.

The second threat is long-standing. American beech trees have smooth gray bark (upon which many have carved their initials). However, since the 1890s, another set of pathogens has plagued the species



Healthy bark on left; bark of diseased tree on right.



by scarring the bark surface: A scale insect pierces the bark and attracts *Nectria* fungi. The resulting damage is called beech bark disease, aka BBD. It gradually weakens the

tree, and few beech trees in New England are unaffected, although some appear to be resistant to the disease.

Adding this summer's drought to the equation just increases the stressors to the beech species. The question remains whether continued BLD infestations will herald the demise of yet another native hardwood tree like the chestnut, the elm, and the ash before it.

Currently, there is only one biocontrol for BLD, a fungicide that is applied by injection. No treatment is available yet for forest-wide application. For more detailed information on management of BLD, consult bit.ly/beechleafmgmt.

continued on page 16

A Lively History of Dublin

BY NANCY CAMPBELL

If you are new to Dublin or are looking for a gift for someone who has just moved here, the town of Dublin has just the thing for you! In 2002, the town celebrated its 250th birthday. As part of the commemoration, a new Dublin history, called *Village on a Hill*, was written by Tom Hyman, who had grown up on Church Street.

The book reads like a novel. It chroni-

cles the first settlement of the town in 1752 and includes stories about local characters, the artists and writers who lived here, murders and fires, and the Route 101 bypass standoff, which divided the town for years. There are photographs in the book of important Dubliners over the years and of familiar buildings in earlier days and some that are no longer standing.

The town has copies available for \$30 at the Archives building behind Town Hall.

NANCY CAMPBELL was a member of the committee that commissioned *Village on a Hill*.



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November Happenings at the Dublin Public Library

BY KAREN MADIGAN

November already! DPL's Friends of the Library were busy hosting their annual meeting in October and creating Saturday morning events for upcoming months. We are pulling from a huge pool of local talent to bring you a variety of tempting programs. One of our Friends, Dublin resident Hollie Morales, offers her time and skills teaching book mending on Saturday, November 8, at 11 am. BYOB (Bring Your Own Book) gives you a chance to repair a favorite book that needs some TLC.

The Friends of the Library will hold a one-day DVD sale from 9 am–1 pm on Saturday, November 15. Come discover collector's items, movies to enjoy over Thanksgiving, or possible Christmas presents. We will have popcorn and a movie playing for the kids so adults can shop.

At 6 pm on Thursday, November 20, New Hampshire Humanities presenter Margo Burns brings "From Mickey to Magoo: The Golden Age of American Animation." Explore the history of cartoons and characters from the 1920s to the 1960s when theaters introduced us to Mickey, Popeye, Bugs & Daffy, Tom & Jerry, Mr. Magoo, and Casper. At the end of her program, we'll view a classic cartoon in its entirety.

Many thanks to recent program presenters Geoffrey Griffiths and Nicole Pease. In September, Geoff presented "Creating a Rain Garden" and offered a question-and-answer sheet about rain gardens. Give us a call or stop by for your own copy, complete with QR codes. In October, Nicole presented "Journey to Africa," highlighting her trip of a lifetime to Malawi. We are so grateful to



Nicole Pease shares highlights of her trip to Malawi at DPL.

the many generous people of Dublin who share their knowledge and time with us.

Dublin School's director of music, Zach Redler, and his students recently brought us thousands of DVDs for our library collection. This was the collection of Susan Gilbert, whose nephew Jonathan Phinney donated them. We are thrilled to announce the upcoming addition of a new DVD case next to the computer corner, where many of these titles will live. Our goal is to get the movies and television series cataloged, processed, and on the shelves by December. We're also starting a wonderful CD music collection donated by Lawrence Graves. Look for this in December or January.

DPL is open for book donations again, but please bring your books to the front desk so we can go through them with you. We might not be able to take all of them, but we'll happily accept any items with no stains, tears, or loose pages. We can't accept magazines, textbooks, *Reader's Digest* issues, encyclopedias, outdated nonfiction, or movies other than DVDs.

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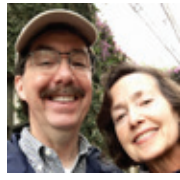
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Updates from Town Hall

Dublin town offices will be closed on the following days:

November 11 • November 26–28

December 23–26 • January 1

Closing the Transfer Station's Compost Pile

In the interest of public safety, the Transfer Station will temporarily discontinue composting food items. Although the pile is covered nightly with loose dirt, the area still attracts wildlife, including bears and rodents. Additional research will be conducted to find a safer, more effective way of composting. For now, the compost pile is closed.

Swap Shop Closing November 15

The Swap Shop at the Dublin Transfer Station will close for the season after November 15. See you in the spring!

2026-2027 Transfer Station Stickers

The new Transfer Station stickers are available at the Town Clerk's office, and they must be properly displayed on the passenger-side front windshield of the vehicle by January 1, 2026. Please bring proof of residency and/or your current vehicle registration.

Winter Is Coming: A Reminder about Plowing

Since the town's winter plowing will be happening soon, you are kindly reminded to avoid plowing or shoveling snow onto or across a public road. In addition, please remember that there is no winter parking on town roads during a storm and for eight hours after, to allow for cleanup. Thank you for your help in keeping the roads safe!

Our American Flag

BY SUSAN PETERS

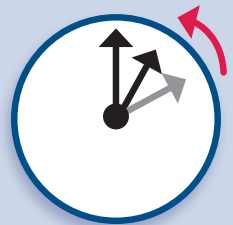
Dublin joins municipalities around the country in flying the American flag. The tradition of honoring a national flag has deep roots around the world. Our American flag design dates to 1777. On June 14, 1777, the Continental Congress passed the Flag Resolution, which stated "Resolved, That the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation." Flag Day is now observed on June 14 of each year.

Dublin owns American flags of various sizes for display on flagpoles and elsewhere and in municipal buildings. We honor the flag on Memorial Day, the 4th of July, Veterans Day, and other significant occasions. Raising and lowering Dublin's various flags is managed by residents Brian Barden, Hank Campbell, and Blake Minckler. People with questions about displaying the flag can reach out to these volunteers or to the town administrator, Kate Fuller.

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

**Daylight Saving Time
ENDS NOVEMBER 2**

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Modifications to the Dublin Sign Ordinance

BY CAROLE MONROE

The Planning Board has noted that many individuals and businesses are not adhering to the current sign ordinance, primarily around temporary signs. This may be because they are unaware of the ordinance, the ordinance is unclear, or they believe it does not pertain to them. We hope that with the proposed modifications summarized below, adherence will be clear, and enforcement will be easier.

1. Added to Prohibited Signs are signs placed closer than 5 feet from the edge of the travel way on town roads, signs placed closer than 10 feet from the travel way on Routes 101 and 137, and signs that impede visibility and safety of the road.
2. Banner flags are prohibited.
3. Agricultural signs are permitted, and a definition of Agricultural Signs is added.
4. Changes to Temporary Signs include:
 - a. Signs may not exceed a total of 36 square feet, with no more than four signs per lot.
 - b. No sign may be displayed for a duration longer than four weeks.

- c. All temporary signs must include contact information.
- d. Temporary signs for specific events must include a time frame for the event, may be erected no more than four weeks prior to the event, and must be removed two days after the event.
- e. Construction or contractor signs may be displayed on the premises where the service or construction is occurring for the duration of the service or construction.
- f. Temporary signs that are in violation will be removed, held at Town Hall for one week, and then disposed of.

Christmas Tree Lighting

BY AIMEE LORD

Get ready to spread some holiday cheer at Dublin's Annual Christmas Tree Lighting on Sunday, November 30. Once again, we invite the community to make the event even more special by bringing favorite homemade cookies to share.

The Christmas Tree Lighting is a beloved tradition in our small town, bringing the whole community together to sing

The Select Board and Code Enforcement Officer are responsible for enforcing the Sign Ordinance. The current ordinance can be found in the Dublin Zoning and Land Use Regulations on the town website at townofdublin.org/planning-board, Article XVI Sign Ordinance.

Political signs are governed by the state by RSA 664:17 and RSA 664:21, and signs on NH Route 101 and NH Route 137 are governed by the state by RSA 236 and RSA 238.

A Planning Board hearing on these recommended changes will be conducted at the Town Hall on November 20 at 6:30 pm.

CAROLE MONROE is the Select Board representative to the Planning Board.

carols, visit Santa, and count down to the magical moment when the tree lights up! We will provide hot cocoa. If you'd like to volunteer to help or bring cookies to share, please email aimeenlord@gmail.com or mariakfinnegan@gmail.com.

The annual event will take place in the Yankee parking lot beginning at 4 pm. The tree will be lit at 4:30 pm. Please help us kick off the holiday season with our wonderful Dublin community!

AIMEE LORD is a resident of Dublin.



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Report from the ConVal School Board

BY BILL GURNEY

Picture day at Dublin Consolidated School was October 9. Even school board members get their pictures taken along with students and staff. I had a chance to meet students and faculty while waiting in line and had a wonderful time joking with students. I met a young man with whom I share a birthday – although he asserted that we were not the same age! Such interactions make the time spent in long meetings and discussions worthwhile.



Overall, SAU 1 enrollment has again declined. October 1 is the official date for reporting enrollment data to the New Hampshire Department of Education. On that date, our enrollment was 1,864, which is 72 fewer students than last October and reflects the long-term decline. For example, our enrollment in 2008–09 was 2,855 students. A portion of this trend can be attributed to demographics, but our administration is examining other factors, such as the increase in charter schools and home schooling. More information on these factors will be shared in a future posting.

A major topic of discussion has been the possible withdrawal of Francetown from the district. Francetown residents presented what I thought was a thorough and comprehensive withdrawal report, given that not all variables in their plan can be known at this time. On October 2, the District Withdrawal Committee voted against the withdrawal request by a vote of 6 in favor to 8 opposed. Unfortunately, I was in northern Maine and did not have cell phone access that night. I would have voted in favor of the proposal had I been present at the meeting. The Francetown School Committee will submit a minority report to the New Hampshire Department of Education, and it is expected that their request will be affirmed by the State Board of Education, resulting in a withdrawal article on the district ballot in March.

The Policy Committee has been considering updates to the ConVal High School graduation requirements to better align with the New Hampshire Department of Education. When approved, we will offer three types of graduation diplomas. The ConVal High School Diploma requires 26 credits for graduation, including four credits in mathematics. The ConVal High School Core Diploma requires 20 credits with three credits in mathematics. A

Certificate of Completion is awarded to students with an individualized education plan (IEP) upon fulfilling their program or upon a student reaching the age of 22. Students receiving either the high school or core diplomas will be required to pass a civics test and the U.S. Citizenship test with a score of at least 70%. The latter was developed by the U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services and is the same test administered to candidates seeking naturalization. The superintendent will be required to submit the test results to the New Hampshire Department of Education per RSA 189:11, II.

The process of developing the 2026–27 district budget has been underway in the Budget and Property Committee. The full board will hold the first budget planning meeting on Saturday, November 1, beginning at 9 am. This will be a challenging budget season, given the economic uncertainties and inflationary factors impacting salaries, benefits, building improvements, and transportation. As the process continues, more information will be shared leading up to the district meetings and voting in March.

For the schedule of upcoming meetings, go to conval.edu. All meetings are held at the SAU offices and are open to the public. Most meetings are also available via Internet.

BILL GURNEY is Dublin's representative to the ConVal School Board.

State Senator Donovan Fenton to Speak

New Hampshire State Senator Donovan Fenton will attend a meeting of the Dublin Democrats at the Dublin Public Library on Saturday, November 8, at 10 am. All are welcome to attend and listen, ask questions, and discuss issues of concern to voters.

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Dublin Consolidated School News



DCS students enjoy their second annual kickball game.

BY NICOLE PEASE

It's hard to believe November is already here; however, when I reflect on all that we have done, it is no wonder several months have passed. We've had a fantastic start to the school year, and October was filled with learning and community fun. Students in grades 3, 4, and 5 traveled to the State House and Christa McAuliffe Museum, where they learned about our state government and space exploration.

The whole school enjoyed pumpkin carving and preparing for the Harvest Supper and Open House. This event is one of our favorites, an opportunity to gather as a community and enjoy a meal together. Preparing for the Harvest Supper is a true team effort. Students helped make food, created table decorations, and practiced our school song. Thank you to the DCS PTO for coordinating the celebration.

We followed the Harvest Supper with a whole-school field trip to hike the White Ledges in Temple. The month finished with the Halloween Parade to the Yankee parking lot. Thank you to Police Chief Tim Suokko for keeping everyone safe and to our generous community members for the sweet treats!

November will include a Veterans Day assembly at 2:30 pm on Thursday, the 6th, to which veterans are invited. We are also conducting a fundraising event for the Wounded Warriors Project in honor of this day. Many students and staff have connections to those who serve or have served, and we feel it's important to recognize and celebrate their service.

On November 7, we will take a whole-school field trip to ConVal High School for a performance of *SpongeBob*. It's a joy for our students to see the high school firsthand.

Parent Teacher Conferences will be held on November 10, and the building will be buzzing with discussions of how students are progressing and how we can work as a team to move students forward in their growth.

Please consider joining us for our monthly Community Lunch on the last Friday of the month, this month on November 21 at noon. It is a BYOL (bring your own lunch) event, and we would love to have you come to our school to engage in conversations with our students; they do love to talk! We wish everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving filled with gratitude, family, and good food!

Please feel free to stop by and visit; just give a call first (603-563-8332).

NICOLE PEASE is the principal teacher at Dublin Consolidated School.

Dear Local Veteran,

Thank you for dedicating your life to serving our country. We owe our freedom to you!

The students and staff at the Dublin Consolidated School would like to thank you for your sacrifice by inviting you to our Veterans Day Assembly.

**Thursday, November 6,
at 2:30 pm
Dublin Consolidated School,
1177 Main Street**

Please RSVP to either
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Light refreshments will be provided.



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Amy Lowell in Dublin

BY TOM SILEO

Many famous men and women with big personalities have passed through Dublin, but few were as flamboyant as the poet and Dublin summer resident Amy Lowell (1874–1925).

Amy never attended college, but she read voraciously and started writing poetry at the age of 28, posthumously winning the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry in 1926.

As a child, she hoped to race horse-drawn coaches, a sport primarily limited to men. In fact, while in Dublin, according to Henry D. Allison (Dublin Days, 1952), “Miss Lowell drove her smart bay mare, hitched to a light open buggy, about as cleverly as could be done by an expert horseman. There were always people in the old days who believed they owned the fastest horse in town. She demonstrated to one of them, at least, that he was entirely mistaken.”

In 1893, Amy began visiting the Louis Cabot family, other Dublin summer residents from Boston. After renting the 60-acre Casper Crowninshield place in Dublin for a summer (then owned by Elizabeth C. Peabody), in May 1900, the *Boston Transcript* reported that “the Crowninshield country home [in Dublin] was sold this week to Miss Amy Lowell...who will take immediate possession.”

Amy named her new summer home “Broomley Lacy.” Broomley Vale was her great-grandfather’s place in Roxbury, Massachusetts, and *Lacy* means “woods.” The property was on a hillside, with vistas of Dublin Lake and Mount Monadnock and, according to *Amy Lowell, A Chronicle*, by S. Foster Damon (1966), she had to

constantly cut the pines on the property to maintain her view of the lake.

Amy loved her dogs, and when they all arrived in Dublin, everyone in town knew it! Allison described how, when delivering groceries to Amy’s home, a “pack of half a dozen or more great shaggy Russian sheep dogs dashed across the field at my approach....” He described how he would “drive as close to the porch as possible and

was always relieved to find [himself] inside the door unmolested.” Her dogs would follow dinner guests through her house but would not enter the dining room. After dinner, on their way to the library, the guests were given towels to “protect their clothing against their [the dogs’] liberal affections.” Damon also describes how in the summer, the dogs were taken to the village in a haycart, barking the whole way.

Amy took part in several Joseph Lindon Smith plays at Dublin Lake’s Loon Point, where Smith created his Italian theater, Teatro Bambino. “She was game for almost anything,” according to Nancy Douglas Bowditch in her book, *George de Forest Brush* (1970). Once, Smith put on a production of *The Wrong Mr. Wright* on the grounds of his house, a play honoring the Wright brothers and their invention of the airplane. The production took place within the windows and doors of Smith’s house as the audience watched from outside. As part of the play, Amy was supposed to fall

down the stairs. “First she appeared in the window on the second floor,” according to Bowditch, “then she gave a scream, and a barrel was rolled down the stairs. She came out of the lower hall much disheveled.”

Amy used many experiences in Dublin as subjects for her poems, including “Trades,” which describes the work of a local carpenter, Willard Pierce, who worked on her Dublin home after it was

damaged by a storm. Another poem, titled “Teatro Bambino,” described Smith’s Dublin theater. She stayed up late writing while smoking a calabash pipe or a cigar – and she woke up late.

Into the early 1900s, cars replaced the horse and buggy, and though Amy lamented the progress, it encouraged her love of speed. According to Damon, Amy was driving one day, and soon “a

motor-cop chased her car for miles. When she started to turn off the main road, he stopped her. She wanted to know why he had let her break the speed limit for such a long distance. ‘Because you was headed straight for the courthouse, ma’am.’” Amy explained that the men driving with her were about to enter the aviation service (this included commercial, mail, and military service), and an arrest for speeding would tarnish their reputations. Feeling sorry for them, the officer let her go.

As she aged, Amy Lowell visited Dublin less often, but she remains one of the town’s legendary characters.

TOM SILEO is a financial advisor and writer.



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November 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

Open Hours, Tuesdays, 9 am–3 pm

Open Hours w/DubHub Director, Wednesdays, 10 am–3 pm

Qigong, Wednesdays, noon–1 pm

Needle Mania, Wednesdays, 3:30–5 pm

Mahjong Group, Thursdays, 1–3 pm

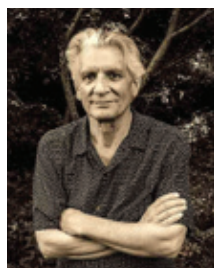
Knit with Nancy, Fridays via Zoom, 10 am

Song Circle, Sunday, November 2

All are welcome at Song Circle, which meets the first Sunday of each month from 3–5 pm. Musicians can share favorite songs with the group and play along. Bring your instrument if you have one, including your voice. If you've never been, please email David Mueller at dmueller55146@gmail.com for more information.

Headless In Hancock, 1882, Wednesday, November 5

Join us at 6:30 pm as master storyteller, poet, and novelist Sebastian Lockwood reads excerpts from his latest publication. *Headless in Hancock, 1882* is a historical novel set in the New England village



of Hancock, New Hampshire, at the close of the 19th century. At the center of town stands the Hancock Inn, where stagecoaches bring travelers from Boston, Concord, and beyond.

Each arrival brings new stories – adventure, conflict, romance, and danger – that ripple through the quiet village. The novel immerses readers in the texture of 19th-century New England – autumn storms sweeping over Mount Monadnock, stone

walls marking the fields, blizzards that test every roof beam, and suppers of cider-braised pork and johnnycakes by the fire. Folklore and superstition linger in the shadows. For readers of historical fiction, American folklore, and atmospheric mysteries, *Headless in Hancock* offers a vivid portrait of a small town alive with character, spirit, and the spell of 1882.

Building True Community, Monday, November 10

Join Balmeet Lasky and Leaf Seligman from 6:30–8 pm on the second Monday of every month as they host a community circle experience. This is time and space for slowing down and connecting deeply with self and other community members. All are welcome – please join us and spread the word. For more information, email lasky.balmeet@gmail.com or leaf1231@gmail.com.

Herb Class, Tuesday, November 11

Join trained herbalist Katherine Gekas at 7 pm as she teaches about herbs for stress. The fee for class is a sliding scale (\$10–\$40), and everyone will go home with small samples and a handout with resources. For those who would like one-on-one consultation time with Katherine, she offers private office hours at the DubHub on the third Tuesday of the month

Art Show Reception, Friday, November 14

The November art exhibit will feature a new collection of “Unhung Heroes” – art pieces provided by DubHub supporters that are looking for new homes. The original paintings and limited-edition prints will



be sold “silent auction” style, beginning at the opening reception on Friday, November 14, 5–7 pm. Clipboards for bidding

will remain in place until a closing event on Friday, November 28, 10 am–noon, after which the winning bidders may take home their acquisitions. Come to support the DubHub and add some new art to your walls!

Red Cross Blood Drive, Saturday, November 15

A blood drive will take place from 9 am–2 pm. To sign up, visit the Red Cross website redcrossblood.org/give, or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

Coffee House & Open Mic, Saturday, November 15

On the third Saturday of each month, there is a combined Coffee House & Open Mic from 6–9 pm. Coffee and snacks are available. Attendees are welcome to BYOB (and dinner/snacks). A featured performance takes place for about 60 minutes, with open mic slots available both prior and after.



This month, we are pleased to feature Off the Cuff, an acoustic instrumental and vocal group featuring Pamela Smith (vocal, guitar, harmonica); Jonas Taub (vocal, guitar); and Andy Chapman (vocal, clarinet, penny whistle, mandolin). Off the Cuff plays at the crossroads of American music where bluegrass meets swing; jazz meets



ding will remain in place until a closing event on Friday, November 28, 10 am–noon, after which the winning bidders may take home their acquisitions. Come to support the DubHub and add some new art to your walls!

blues; and folk, rock and country become pals – blending these elements with tight vocal harmonies and instrumental arrangements. Their set at the DubHub will feature traditional and contemporary jazz and swing songs from the “Great American Songbook” and beyond, a hundred years of song from the 1920s to the 2020s.

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 for the featured performer(s).

Meditation Group, Tuesday, November 18

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

Stay tuned to the December issue of the *Advocate* for more information about our annual **Small Treasures Show & Sale** December 5–8 and our annual **Smartphone Photo Contest** in January!

Storytelling & Spoken Word, Wednesday, November 19

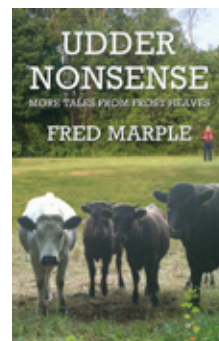
On the third Wednesday of every month from 6:30–8:30 pm, the DubHub hosts the Monadnock Storytelling & Spoken Word Circle, an open mic to share stories, poetry, rap, comedy, or truly any kind of spoken word, going round the circle. The organizers are Sebastian Lockwood and Papa Joe Gaudet. For more information, contact Papa Joe at papajoe storytelling.com and Sebastian at bit.ly/slockwood.

Jingle & Mingle, Thursday, November 20

From 6:30–8:30 pm, let's kick off the holiday season with a merry night of creativity and cheer! Enjoy an evening of hands-on holiday crafting in a warm, welcoming setting. Create holiday swags, tree ornaments, and holiday cards – each station offers something fun and festive to make and take home. Choose your craft station, or visit them all. We'll provide the materials and some snacks; you bring your own beverage of choice. Come sip, sparkle, and create with friends old and new – no experience needed, just bring your holiday spirit. Email info@dublincommunitycenter.org to sign up.

Fred Marple Reads, Friday, November 21

Join us at 6:30 pm for this treat that will tickle your funny bone! Yankee humorist Fred Marple (aka Ken Sheldon) will read from his new book, *Udder Nonsense: More Tales from Frost Heaves*. The Loon Lodge's fundraiser goes awry thanks to a flock of uncooperative ducks. Young Albert Cooper's plans for romance are thwarted by a prize pig. Millard Tuttle res-



cues Santa Claus, and a bingo champ meets her match. Fred's humor columns have been in *Yankee* magazine, *New Hampshire Magazine*, and other publications. He has appeared on *New Hampshire Chronicle*, on the radio, at town halls, in church basements, and at the homes of most of his friends, usually right around dinnertime.

Winter Clothing Drive, October 23–November 23

The Dublin Community Center will be the drop-off location and host for this year's Share the Warmth Drive, supporting two local organizations: Hundred Nights and Love Thy Neighbor. We're collecting new or gently used winter coats, winter boots, warm socks, gloves, hats, hand warmers, warm undergarments, and layers. All are invited to drop off donated items at the DubHub during our events, open hours, or by appointment. Email info@dublincommunitycenter.org for more information. Together, let's help keep our neighbors warm this winter!

Calendars are always evolving, so find us on Facebook, facebook.com/dublinhub, subscribe to Hubbub from the DubHub, email info@dublincommunitycenter.org, or visit dubhub-nh.org.



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A Life of Passion and Purpose

BY NINA BROGNA

Our mother, Susan Barker, approached everything she did with remarkable intensity and an unwavering commitment to learning. Whatever the field, she didn't just participate – she immersed herself completely.

It began with a love of gardening. Susan cultivated beautiful vegetables, elegant beds of irises, and thriving potted begonias. But she didn't stop there. She became a certified horticulture judge, learning the Latin names of plants and the precise standards of botanical perfection.

In the early 1990s, she entered a begonia in the Boston Flower Show and won the prestigious Begonia Award. Her expertise and leadership took her from horticulture judge to president of the Garden Club of Dublin, and later, chairman of Zone 1 for the Garden Club of America. She traveled the East Coast, representing Zone 1 and judging flower shows with a discerning eye and infectious enthusiasm.

Once she had mastered general horticulture, Susan turned her attention to daffodils. The vegetable patch was transformed into orderly rows of daffodils, each labeled meticulously with its proper code. For example, “Y-Y-O” referred to a daffodil with a yellow perianth (petals) and a yellow cup edged in orange.

She dove headfirst into this new world and formed a close friendship with Vallie Wells, who encouraged her to become a daffodil judge, and, of course, she did. Her keen eye and dedication made



her a sought-after judge at daffodil shows. She frequently flew to Nantucket to evaluate thousands of blooms and select the best among them.

Susan and Vallie were instrumental in growing the Dublin Daffodil Show into a prestigious event. American Daffodil Society ribbons were awarded, and entries poured in from across New England – including Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, Rhode Island, and New Hampshire. In 1984, the show introduced its first Junior Class (for children under 15) and the Gentlemen's Challenge Class, expanding the event's reach and appeal.

After mastering the world of daffodils, Susan returned to a creative passion from earlier in life: jewelry making. A silversmith in the 1970s, she had crafted bold, modern sterling silver pieces while raising her children – designs that perhaps were ahead of their time.

In 2005, she attended a bead show in New York City and was re-inspired. Just as she had selected plants for their structure and color, she began sourcing beads from around the world – choosing them for their intricate designs and vivid hues. She paired them with sterling silver “charms” inspired by the flowers and leaves she had spent years judging and cultivating.

Our mother lived with a palpable joy and intensity. She pursued perfection not for its own sake but as a way to deepen her understanding – and to invite others into the beauty she saw in the world. Whether in a garden, a flower show, or a jewelry studio, she brought passion, precision, and warmth to everything she touched.

NINA BROGNA is a jeweler and Susan Barker's daughter.



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For Sarah Warren and Michael Walsh, the Trail Leads to Dublin

BY JULIE RIZZO

Michael Walsh and Sarah Warren are settling into their new home on Windmill Hill Road, having moved to Dublin from Jefferson, New Hampshire, where they shared a love of “trails and trees.” Married 20 years ago this month, Michael and Sarah met at the Appalachian Mountain Club Visitor Center in the White Mountains. After a trial hike together, Sarah remembers she was happy to find someone to hike challenging trails with in winter, while Michael remembers she was “smiling, gleaming, and skipping” her way to the end of the trail.

Michael, a longtime naturalist, has deep roots in Dublin. His grandmother, Dorothy Worcester, was the town librarian, and his grandfather, Spook, owned Worcester’s Garage. His parents, Ann Worcester Walsh and Dan Walsh, took over the garage and volunteered in the town for years after Dan’s retirement from the Army. As a military family, Michael and his sister, Dubliner Susan Petty, grew up all over the country as well as in Germany, but the family’s home base was always Dublin.

Sarah grew up in Manhattan and spent summers at a sleepaway camp in Maine, and in Gloucester, Massachusetts, with beloved grandparents, where she felt most at home. A fish out of water in the city, she daydreamed about living where she could walk in nature to her heart’s content.

Sarah went to college at the University of Rochester and studied gerontology. Within a few years of graduating, she headed to Santa Fe, New Mexico, to



manage a retirement home there. Pretty soon, the trees and trails were calling, and she spent a few years cooking soup and baking at the ski resort in Taos to support her skiing habit. On many evenings, she performed as a singer-songwriter at local pubs. Eventually, she moved to Cambridge, Massachusetts, where she worked in the Harvard University math department as a technical typesetter, while raising her stepdaughter and spending her days off in the White Mountains backpacking.

Meanwhile, after graduating from ConVal, Michael was a math-turned-music major at the University of New Hampshire. He did graduate work at the Mozarteum in Salzburg, where he studied vocal performance and early music. With his return to the U.S., he learned there was far less opportunity for professional musicians here than in Salzburg. He returned to Dublin to raise a family (he has two grown sons) and managed the Monadnock, Pisgah, and Rhododendron State Parks. After moving north

in 2000, he was the Visitor Services supervisor at the Appalachian Mountain Club’s Pinkham Notch Visitor Center at the foot of Mount Washington. He and Sarah were also trail adopters for miles of trails in the White Mountains, making repairs and clearing brush.

You see where this is going, right? Math, music, mountains, trails...

Sarah’s love of the outdoors took her to live full-time in Jefferson, New Hampshire, when her stepdaughter went away to boarding school. She worked remotely there as the production editor of the *Annals of Mathematics*, a publication of Princeton University.

Her job required the ability to read and code complex mathematical formulas for typesetting and publication, a meticulous and esoteric expertise. At the same time, she developed her weaving skills and was juried into the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen as a tapestry weaver. She has found fulfillment in balancing these two demanding crafts with her love of hiking.

Now Sarah and Michael have moved to Dublin full-time, although they will keep their home in Jefferson for the time being. Michael has found a music community in the choir at Dublin Community Church and has reconnected with many old friends who are still here or who have also returned to the area. Sarah serves as a hospice volunteer in the Monadnock Region, enjoys spending time with her stepdaughter and grandson in Northampton, Massachusetts, and loves exploring the carriage roads and byways around Dublin.

Welcome home, Michael and Sarah!

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

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- Community spaces like the Dublin Playground
- Arts and cultural enrichment

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Author Susie Spikol at DCS



Wunderle Circus at DCS



Dublin Pre-K at the Harris Center



Cornucopia Sunflower Shower
at DCS

DCF Board: May Clark, Holly Macy, Kim Marcum, John Wood, Zach Redler
PO Box 1036, Dublin, NH 03444 dublincommunityfoundation@gmail.com

New Sculpture Unveiled at Ashuelot River Park

BY RICK MACMILLAN

Three years ago, I was bitten by the sculpture bug. I was at a conference in Meredith, New Hampshire. Enthralled by the sculptures along the waterfront, I was curious how sculpture walks, such as this one, or more renowned sculpture parks, such as Storm King outside New York City, get started. And thrive.

So I nosed around, trying to get a handle on these ventures. While in Tucson that winter, fate would introduce me to a sculpture park impresario, Michael Manjarris, from Corpus Christi, Texas. I invited him to spend a week in New Hampshire that summer of 2023. His visit made me realize that while the Monadnock Region has an abundance of performing arts and two-dimensional art, we lack three-dimensional art.

At Michael's urging, I sought a "cornerstone" project, seeking a high-quality work of art to get things started. I pursued opportunities in Peterborough and on the campus of Dublin School. And, while the Dublin School has since installed scul-

tures along their Nordic ski trails, our other efforts fell short.

Last March, by serendipity, I met Christopher Curtis, a sculptor of national reputation from Duxbury, Vermont. A visit to the Trapp Family Lodge and his studio in Stowe, Vermont, resulted in an offer to loan one of his works, *Thought Cage*, if a suitable site could be found. I had been in

contact with the city of Keene and Friends of Public Art, a Keene-based group dedicated to promoting public art.

Curtis is recognized for his innovative use of stone, steel, and light to create pieces that reflect natural and human-made rhythms. *Thought Cage* is designed to promote reflection and conversation while showcasing the natural beauty of Ashuelot River Park.

I must tell you that

gaining final approval by the city of Keene was an educational experience. Keene has a well-defined ordinance governing public art. Not every city is so fortunate. There are also structural codes that, when applied to public art, create a curious dilemma, where inspiration meets building standards. Wind stress analyses, fencing codes, and liability issues surfaced and had to be overcome, one by one. Who would have thought?

In the end, *Thought Cage* was installed in Ashuelot River Park, and a ribbon-cutting ceremony was held in October. If this corner-stone project blooms into a robust sculpture trail throughout the Monadnock Region, the effort will have been well spent.

The entrance to Ashuelot River Park is located at 242 West Street in Keene.

RICK MACMILLAN is a former editor of the *Advocate*.



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November at The Park Theatre

Don't miss these events in November at The Park Theatre, 19 Main Street, Jaffrey:

- 11/1** Halloween Fest continues with *Corpse Bride*, 2 pm and 6:30 pm; *The Screaming Skull*, 7 pm
- 11/2** Peterborough Folk Music Le Vent du Nord, 4 pm
- 11/7** *Spinal Tap II: The End Continues*, 6:30 pm
- 11/8** *Spinal Tap II: The End Continues*, 2 pm and 6:30 pm
- 11/11** Veterans Day Special – *Where Eagles Dare*, 12:30 pm and 6:30 pm. A riveting WWII rescue movie featuring Richard Burton and Clint Eastwood; free admission; free pizza for vets and their families.
- 11/12** Exhibition on Screen: *Munch from the Munch Museum and National Gallery Oslo*, 1:30 pm and 6:30 pm; Open Mic Night, 6:30 pm
- 11/14** Story Songs of the 70s: Gordon Lightfoot, Cat Stevens, and Harry Chapin, 7:30 pm
- 11/15** I Will Follow – The Ultimate U2 Tribute Band, 7:30 pm
- 11/17** Monthly Red Cross Blood Drive, 9:30 am–3:30 pm
- 11/18** A Chat with Author Phil Gargan, recollecting many adventures on the wild waters of the Zambezi River, Zimbabwe, 7 pm
- 11/22** The Brothers Project: An Allman Brothers Tribute, 7 pm
- 11/23** Julie Andrews Sing-along: *The Sound of Music*, 2 pm
- 11/29** Julie Andrews Sing-along: *Mary Poppins*, 1:30 pm and 6:30 pm; Park Theatre Tree Trimming Party 4–6 pm, free. Enjoy eggnog and treats; bring or make an ornament for the tree in the lounge

Don't forget our free live music in the lounge most Friday and

Saturday nights, this month featuring local favorites Ryan Hood, Mike Rowland, Harold Thomas McCarthy, Kota, Eve Pierce, and John Brinkley. For more details, please visit theparktheatre.org or The Park Theatre on Facebook.

End 68 Gets Great Action!

September was Hunger Action Month, and wow, did the friends of ConVal End 68 Hours of Hunger take action!

Steele's Stationers in Peterborough delivered 220 reusable water bottles and cash donations they collected in August. Aesop's Tables in Peterborough held a successful food drive, and so did the Mansfield Public Library in Temple. Kids pitched in, donating funds raised at the Francestown Children's Market. And the effort spilled over into October, capped off by the Stuff an Ambulance food drive by Peterborough Fire and Rescue in front of Shaw's. What a community effort!

All this allows us to continue our mission of feeding food-insecure children in the ConVal School District – with weekend grocery bags sent home from school, snacks and One-Meal Bags delivered to local libraries and social service agencies, and more. We feed hungry kids, and they come to school ready to learn.

To all who joined in this month-long effort: You are awesome! Dubliners are always among our greatest food donors, and that makes such a difference.

Of course, all this food goes out almost as fast as it comes in. This month, we're especially looking for donations of peanut butter, Ramen, mac and cheese, and protein bars left at the west entrance to the Dublin Community Church. Your help really does matter. We thank you!

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November

BY JULIE RIZZO

As the sugar maple's leaf
knows the fall,
my earth color is lightening,
lifting,
leaving me
spirit-colored.

My earth sound is drifting over hills,
bending, pulling
long vibrations
from my hollow limbs.

I was the lioness, sleek,
surgical –
hunting, feeding, grooming –
coiled for spring.

I was the yeasted dough -
swelling,
deep-scented and elastic -
warmly yielding.

Soon my earth shape will burst open,
scattering
this me-star like milkweed
across the black sky.

Seeds
will fall
like
snow.

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

Dublin remembers

Randy Drain
1959–2025

A Beach Season Wrapped Up with Care

BY NICOLE PEASE

As the sun sets on another wonderful summer season, the beach is now quiet and serene. The docks were put away with care, the rafts were stored for another year, and the familiar sounds of laughter have faded, all replaced by the crisp fall air. Yet, before we say goodbye to this year's beach season, it's time to pause and offer our gratitude.

A special thank-you goes out to Joe and Philip Sangermano, Justin Carpenter, Jim Moore, and Hank Campbell, whose dedication ensured that our beach was carefully put away for the winter season. Not only do community members show up during scheduled events, they also do so in times of need. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to the Dublin Fire Depart-

ment for their swift response in putting out a fire on the cove property, preventing what could have been much worse damage. Their bravery and professionalism reminded us of the strength of our local heroes.

Meanwhile, let's remember the summer we shared and the people who made it all possible. See you next summer, when the docks come back out, and the laughter returns.

Dublin Women's Community Club board members are Laura Elcoate, chairperson; Nancy Campbell, treasurer; Margaret Blackburn, secretary; Connie Cerroni; Judy Edelkind; Janice Moore; Katie Featherston, and Nicole Pease.

NICOLE PEASE handles publicity for the Dublin Women's Community Club.

Used Books and Other Novel Items

Mark your calendars for a 3-day sale of previously loved books and more at the Dublin Community Church:

Friday, December 5, 8 am–6 pm

Saturday, December 6, 8 am–6 pm

Sunday, December 7, 1–3 pm

In the accessible Dublin Community Church hall

We hope these new sale hours will give everyone, early birds and night owls alike, enough time to relax and browse. Listen to soothing music. Have a warm cup of coffee, tea, or hot chocolate. Spark an urge to read. Proceeds go to the church's Outreach Committee to support local needs.

Book donations (no mold, water damage, or missing covers) can be dropped off in the sheds on the east side of the church.



Photo by Ellen Bingham

We also accept interesting old calendars, maps, brainy games, movies, music, puzzles, and stationery.

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Explore Conservation in the Monadnock Region

The Monadnock Region Natural History Conference will take place on Saturday, November 15 from 8:30 am–4 pm at Keene State College. This day of learning features presentations on a range of natural history topics, with a focus on conservation research, ecological restoration and management, and environmental education in the Monadnock Region. The conference is for anyone with an interest in local natural history – scientists, land managers, educators, students, backyard naturalists, and more.

Cartoonist, naturalist, and author Rosemary Mosco is the keynote speaker. She will explore the funny side of nature and discover why comics and science are natural allies. Rosemary will share how she built a career that blends art and science and will tell a few funny stories from the creation of her new book, *The Birding Dictionary* – a tongue-in-cheek guide for people who find themselves obsessed, against all logic and reason, with birds. She's written and drawn



for the *New York Times*, *Audubon*, *Ranger Rick*, the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's *Living Bird* magazine, and more. She also creates acclaimed science books for kids and adults and the award-winning nature comic *Bird and Moon*.

Morning and afternoon sessions will feature 22 short talks covering Mammal Monitoring, Humans & Nature, Community Science, Migration, Breeding Birds, Ecosystem Management, and Aquatic

Ecology. Registration fee includes participation in two optional field trips on Sunday, November 16: a morning bird walk and an afternoon mushroom foray.

The \$30 conference fee (\$10 for students) covers admission to all presentations and field trips and includes a light breakfast and afternoon coffee. Advance registration closes on November 9 and is strongly recommended. Scholarships are available. For more information, please visit bit.ly/Harrisconfreg or contact the conference organizers at monadnock.natural.history@gmail.com.

Thank you to our heroes on Veterans Day!

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Dublin Community Church.

Beech Tree Threat continued from page1

Beech leaves are the last to fall in late autumn, when a walk through the understory seems artificially lit by their golden hue. Hopefully, scientists will find a means to stop widespread beech leaf disease before this lovely tree disappears from our forests.

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

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Lita Judge to Speak in Peterborough

Peterborough writer Lita Judge will speak at the Peterborough Town Library on Wednesday, November 19, at 6 pm. Co-sponsored by the Monadnock Area Transitional Shelter (MATS) and the library, the event will focus on Lita's new picture book, *Old Blue Is My Home*. The story is based on Lita's childhood experiences of housing and economic insecurity. Although it describes challenges, the story is ultimately uplifting as it conveys in words and illustrations that a happy home is where love resides. The event is free and open to the public.



Library Happenings continued from page 2

Emaline, Liz, Victoria, and I recently made a trip to the Used Book Superstore in Burlington, Massachusetts, where we filled four carts with 139 books, mostly hardcover. The grand total was \$624, which amounts to \$4.49 per book. Now we've filled gaps in series and added some great titles to the collection. With an average 16% increase in book prices and a static \$8,500 annual collections budget, we must be smart in acquiring needed titles. We try to honor patron requests, so if there are titles you want to see in the library, please tell us.

DPL is closed Tuesday, November 11, in honor of Veterans



The Dublin Community Preschool and Childcare Center is an independent, nonprofit, state-licensed educational center for children 6 weeks old through 5 years. It has been nurturing Monadnock area children for over 50 years. Quality childcare is more than a convenience – it's a foundation for community success that allows parents to be better employees. Research shows that high-quality care during the early years improves school readiness and long-term outcomes. DCP encourages your support during Giving Tuesday on December 2. For more information, visit dublinpreschoolandchildcare.org.

Day. We're also closed Thursday, November 27, for Thanksgiving. Our staff, Trustees, and Friends wish you all a healthy and safe Thanksgiving filled with family, favorite foods, wonderful memories...and some newly acquired DVDs. Enjoy!

KAREN MADIGAN is the director of the Dublin Public Library.

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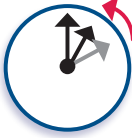
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NOVEMBER 2025 Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS HUB Song Circle 3-5pm 	3 HUB Coffee & Conversation 10am-noon; Yoga 3-4:15pm; DPL Creative Club 3:30-4:30pm; TH Cem Trustees 9am; Select Board 4:30pm	4 HUB Yoga 6:30-7:30am; Open 9am-3pm; DPL Duplicate Bridge Club 9:30am; Monadnock Bridge Club 1pm; Creative Club 3:30-4:30pm; GOP 5:30pm; SAU School Board mtg 7pm	5 HUB Coff & Conv 10am-noon; Open hours w/Dir 10am-3pm; QiGong noon-1pm; Needle Mania 3:30-5pm; <i>Headless in Hancock</i> 6:30pm; DPL StoryTime/Homesch 10:30am; Stories&Songs 10:30am	6 HUB Mahjong Group 1-3pm; DCS Veteran's Day Assembly 2:30pm; TH Planning Board 6pm	7 HUB/Zoom Knit w/ Nancy 10-11am	1 8 DPL Dublin Dems w/Donovan Fenton 10am; Book Mending 11am
9	10 HUB Coffee & Conversation 10am-noon; Yoga 3-4:15pm; Building Community 6:30-8pm; DPL Creative Club 3:30-4:30pm; Historical Soc. 4pm; TH Select Board 4:30pm; WM&RC 5pm	11 VETERANS DAY; DPL and TH CLOSED; HUB Yoga 6:30-7:30am; Open 9am-3pm; Herb Class 7pm; DCC Community lunch noon-1pm	12 HUB Coffee & Conversation 10am-noon; Open Hours w/Director 10am-3pm; QiGong noon-1pm; Needle Mania 3:30-5pm; DPL StoryTime/Homeschool 10:30am; Trustees 5pm	13 HUB Mahjong Group 1-3pm	14 HUB/Zoom Knit w/Nancy 10-11am; Art Reception 5-7pm	15 TS Last day for Swap Shop; KSC Monad Nat'l Hist Conf 8:30-4pm; DPL Friends' DVD Sale 9am-1pm; HUB Blood Drive 9am-2pm; Coffee House & Open Mic 6-9pm
16	17 HUB Coffee & Conversation 10am-noon; Yoga 3-4:15pm; DPL Creative Club 3:30-4:30pm; TH Select Board 4:30pm	18 HUB Yoga 6:30-7:30am; Open 9am-3pm; Meditation Group 6:15-7:30pm; DPL Monad Bridge Club 1pm; Creative Club 3:30-4:30pm; <i>DogMan</i> Book Release 4pm; Tech Night 6pm; SAU School Board mtg 7pm	19 HUB Coffee & Conversation 10am-noon; Open with Director 10am-3pm; QiGong noon-1pm; Needle Mania 3:30-5pm; Spoken Word 6:30-8:30pm; DPL StoryTime/Homeschool 10:30am; TH Cons. Comm. 5pm	20 HUB Mahjong Group 1-3pm; Jingle & Mingle 6:30-8:30pm; DPL From Mickey to Magoo 6pm; TH Planning Board hearing 6:30pm	21 HUB/Zoom Knit w/ Nancy 10-11am; Fred Marple 6:30pm; DCS Community Lunch 12pm	23 HUB Coat & Winter Gear Drive begins
22	24 HUB Coffee & Conversation 10am-noon; Yoga 3-4:15pm; DPL Creative Club 3:30-4:30pm; TH Select Board 4:30pm	25 HUB Yoga 6:30-7:30am; Open 9am-3pm; DPL Monad Bridge Club 1pm; Creative Club 3:30-4:30pm	26 TH CLOSED HUB Coffee & Conversation 10am-noon; Open with Director 10am-3pm; QiGong noon-1pm; Needle Mania 3:30-5pm; DPL StoryTime/Homeschool 10:30am	27 THANKSGIVING; DPL and TH CLOSED	28 HUB/Zoom Knit w/Nancy 10-11am	29
30 YPL Christmas Tree Lighting 4pm	DCS Dublin Community Church DPL Dublin Public Library HUB Dublin Community Center KSC Keene State College SAU ConVal Admin Office TH Town Hall, Dublin TS Transfer Station YPL Yankee Parking Lot					

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