

*Report of the*  
**Long Range Planning Committee**

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John T. Donoghue, Chairman  
Peter Smith, Secretary  
George Arnold Jr.  
John Jeffries, Board of Selectmen  
Mark Sarro, Planning Board  
Matthew Schmid  
Suzanne Sheridan  
Gordon Kinder, Warrant Committee Liaison

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The Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) is a seven-member committee made up of one member of the Board of Selectmen, one member of the Planning Board, and five members appointed by the Moderator on a rotating basis of one or two members each year for three-year terms. The LRPC advises on, assists, and coordinates the long range planning of all Town boards and committees.

In 2016, the Long Range Planning Committee completed its work on Green Community Designation and recommended to the Selectmen that they consider creating an Energy Coordination Committee to work on ongoing implementation.

The Selectmen next requested that the LRPC review the status of affordable housing in Dover. This was a substantial task to undertake, and so our Committee broke it down into three categories: senior housing, general housing, and Chapter 40B housing.

Throughout the summer, the Committee studied and reviewed the housing categories, which led us to examine the merits of the formerly proposed Open Space Preservation Zoning Bylaw, which was sponsored by the Planning Board but was narrowly defeated at the 2008 Annual Town Meeting.

The Committee unanimously agreed that it was timely to revisit the Open Space Preservation Zoning Bylaw because it could have a major impact on limiting Chapter 40B development by giving property owners an alternative to large-lot subdivisions. We are currently working with the Planning Board to review in detail the advantages and disadvantages of the revised bylaw proposal.

We would like to thank Robyn Hunter and Brooks Gerner for their service and contributions to the Committee.

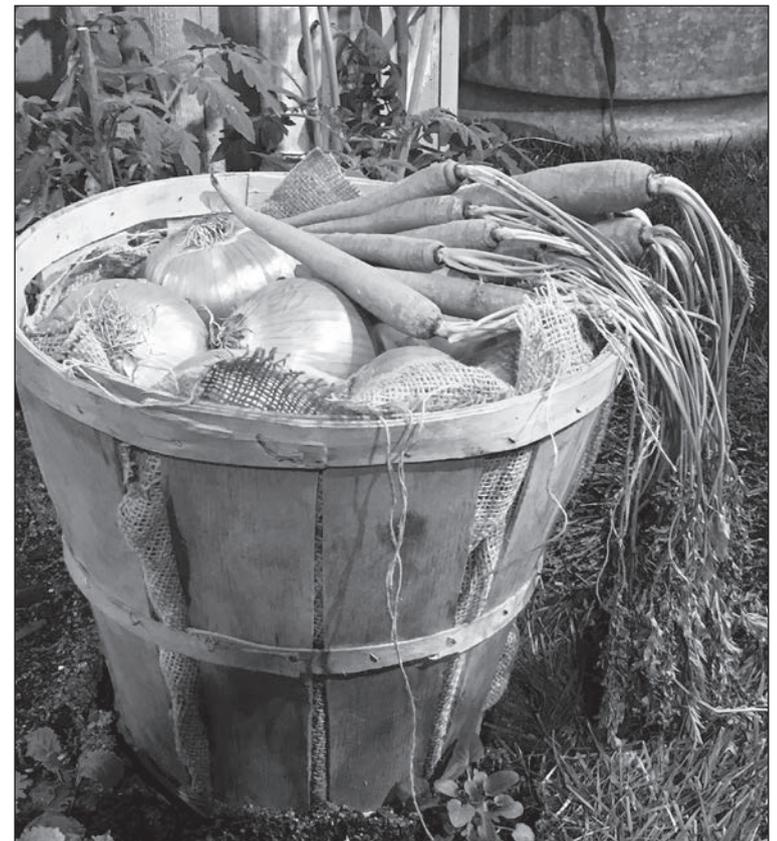
# DOVER

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## *Other Town Reports*

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# 2017



## *Report of the* **Town Library**

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Anne Coster, Co-Chairman  
Judith Schulz, Co-Chairman  
Mark Bush  
Maud Chaplin  
Kimberly Hatfield  
Adrian Hill  
Cheryl Abdullah, Director

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Since its establishment of a free public library in 1894, the Town of Dover has recognized the need for the preservation of knowledge and ideas, and access to that information for all. That recognition continues today within the walls of the Dover Town Library, where you will find a warm and welcoming environment providing traditional and non-traditional services—in a variety of formats, including print and multimedia—to support the reading, informational, and recreational needs and interests of all our patrons.

The Dover Town Library is an award-winning library that enjoys national recognition. In addition to being named “Best Small Library in North America” finalist in 2012 by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the library earns consistently high marks on the Library Journal Index of Public Library Service, a national rating system “designed to recognize and promote America’s public libraries” based on per-capita measures of service output: circulation, library visits, program attendance, and public Internet computer use. The Dover Town Library has been named a “Star Library” every year since 2014 and, in 2017, it received the added distinction of being one of only four libraries in its spending peer group to receive the LJ Index’s highest designation of “five stars.” We are very proud of the prestigious national recognition that our “small town library” has earned year after year.

With recent interior renovations completed, our library can now provide visitors with an even more welcoming, flexible, and versatile space. These improvements are greatly assisting our ongoing commitment to improving our collections, which includes continuing to add more fiction and Speed Reads to our lists, as well as making available multiple copies of in-demand titles. To ensure that our Dover residents enjoy preferred access to the latest titles and to make more titles available for browsing, all new books remain in-house for up to six months before becoming available for interlibrary loans. Many other improvement efforts occur behind the scenes to help ensure user-friendly experiences for anyone searching the library catalog.

We have enhanced our nonfiction collection to reflect a wider range of interests, scope, and authorship, as well as preserve accuracy, with an overall aim of maintaining a core collection of materials that reflect a foundational understanding of major disciplines. Although we are a small-town library, our membership in the Minuteman Library Network allows us to obtain a vast selection of materials within a few days, thereby extending our reach beyond our brick-and-mortar space.

We are in constant pursuit of titles and materials that will improve our collections and delight our patrons. Decisions regarding the selection, organization, and dissemination of library materials are informed by professional journals and popular lists, as well as based on current library principles, standards, and best practices. We gladly accept public recommendations, which weigh heavily in our consideration of what to purchase in compliance with the library's materials selection policy and budget.

As a member of the Minuteman Library Network, the Dover Town Library provides Dover residents with access to downloadable materials available from OverDrive media services. Patrons can also enjoy a wide variety of library-funded databases that are free to use and accessible through our website 24/7 from home, work, or while at the library. They include the *Boston Globe*, *Encyclopedia Britannica*, *Opposing Viewpoints in Context*, as well as podcasts, transcripts, and more than 8,000 professional journals. In addition:

- **ConsumerReport.org** is available to assist you with informed consumer decisions.
- **IndieFlix.com** allows you to pick from more than 4,500 independent films from your favorite film festivals worldwide and stream them directly to your computer or portable device to watch on TV.
- **Mangolanguage.com** teaches real conversations in more than 60 languages. You can access it from anywhere and from any device for free with your library card.
- **UniversalClass.com** is an incredible opportunity to invest in your continuing education for free by using your library card. You can access to hundreds of instructor-led, online classes that can be completed for CEU credits.
- **Ancestry.com** helps you to explore your personal history and family tree. Access is limited to within the library only.
- **RBdigital Magazines**, the world's largest newsstand, offers full-color digital magazines for reading anytime, anywhere

on computers and on mobile devices and apps. The collection includes both new and backlist titles with no holds, no checkout periods, and no limits.

- **Hoopla.com** offers free digital movies, music, and books instantly, 24/7, with your library card.

In 2016, we were thrilled to welcome Head of Youth Services Nancy Tegeler, who has eagerly revitalized the Children's Room and its collection with applauded changes that include a refreshed and expanded easy readers collection, juvenile series, and fiction collections. Ms. Tegeler's determination in promoting the library is evident by her many visits to area schools and preschools. She introduced our Summer Reading Program, in which children earn buttons for reaching reading milestones and completing challenges. The program was enthusiastically embraced by Dover families, with more than 100 children signing up and an 80% rate of engagement. More than 1,200 buttons were earned and 3,300 people attended Children's Room events throughout July and August.

Community programming is an important part of library services. On any given day, you will find something to pique your interest or satisfy your curiosity. Our programs stimulate dialogue and introduce ideas and culture into our community for exploration, learning, and enjoyment. Book clubs provide stimulating discourse and social interaction. "Exploration Stations" geared for adults, teens, and children alike provide hands-on experiences in multiple disciplines throughout the year. Our teen programming has expanded to include a variety of events, movies (on our new 65-inch TV), Tech Time (Snap Circuits, Makey Makey, and more), crafts, and study groups every Friday afternoon at 3:30.

Last year, the Dover Town Library ran 742 library programs that were enjoyed by 19,725 participants. In 2018, you can look forward to monthly visits made by Library Assistant/Young Adult Librarian Lauren Berghman to the Dover-Sherborn Middle School and Dover-Sherborn High School libraries. Also, don't forget about our Museum Pass Program, Virtual Reality Station, and our Tea and Trivia Thursdays. For details on these and other exciting free programs and events, check out our website and calendar.

The library's unique objects collection continues to be embraced by many patrons who see the economic value in having items available to try out before purchasing or to borrow for an annual chore. Patrons are excited to have access to such items as a sewing machine, pottery wheel, or small kitchen appliance. Families enjoy playing board or backyard games, pitching a tent, or using binoculars. Most of the objects provide a hands-on component for a particular discipline, enhance a family gathering, or aid in a task. No matter the reason for their use, these unique objects are finding their way into the daily lives of our patrons.

Because play is vital to a child's mastery of complex strategies in language, social interactions, physical movement, and problem solving,

toys form an essential part of our overall collection. Many of our toys are appropriate for children of differing abilities and are designed to benefit specific skills development and educational growth and learning. Toys include board games, puzzles, dolls, and electronics and building kits that can be borrowed for up to three weeks using your library card.

The Dover Town Library is proud to be partnering with the Autism Higher Education Foundation in a pilot program that creates, improves, and provides access to educational and vocational opportunities for individuals on the autism spectrum who aspire to continue their learning beyond high school. We are proud to provide volunteer opportunities to these individuals who possess specific skills that enhance our library services.

The Dover Town Library is grateful for the ongoing and generous financial support that it receives of the Friends of the Library, private donations, and grants, which makes every library program, unique object, toy, and circulating technology possible.

Our staff remains committed to the library’s mission to provide “free open access to the world’s knowledge, information, and cultures.” We are always pleased to assist with reader’s advisory, help pick out a great book, place a hold on a new title, or answer questions. We are a team of professionals dedicated to the community, and every day we strive to build a meaningful collection of materials, offer engaging programs, and make the library a worthwhile destination for you and your family.

Please stop by the library, visit our website at [www.dovertownlibrary.org](http://www.dovertownlibrary.org), or call us at 508-785-8113.

## Library Statistics for Fiscal Year 2017

*(July 2016–June 2017)*

State Aid	\$10,633.70
Circulation	156,535
Library Visits	80,942
Items Borrowed	14,559
Holdings	276,217
Registered Borrowers	3,268
Programs Offered	742

## Report of the Cemetery Commission

Pope Hoffman, Chairman

Carol Jackman, Secretary

Laina Swiny

During 2017, 13 families bought grave lots at Highland Cemetery: one one-grave lot, six two-grave lots, four four-grave lots, and two eight-grave lots. Citizens are reminded that you can purchase a one-grave lot that is designated for three cremations. The income from the sale of these lots was \$18,000. The perpetual care income was \$67,500. The total income from purchased lots and perpetual care was \$85,500.

Thirty-nine funerals were held in 2017, of which 20 were cremations and 19 were full burials. Five of the funeral services were for veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces. A total of \$23,600 was collected for 2017 funerals. The income from regular full burials (\$11,250) and cremations (\$4,500) totaled \$15,750. There was a surcharge revenue total of \$7,850 for holiday and weekend burials and miscellaneous surcharges of \$225. Income from setting foundations and markers was \$7,618. Our 2017 expenditures included the purchase of a new John Deere X738 tractor.

The Town of Dover is very fortunate to have Lawrence (Rusty) Dauphinee as its cemetery supervisor. His caring way with families who are undergoing difficult times is truly appreciated. The assistance of the Highway Department, under the supervision of Craig Hughes on an as-needed basis, is another invaluable asset. A big thank-you goes to all who have assisted Rusty. It is also a pleasure to have Tree Warden John Gilbert working with us now.

The roads in the cemetery are considered Town roads and come under the Tree Warden’s budget. As a result, the cemetery was able to have 10 trees planted this year to replace those that were cut down due to their deteriorating condition.

In 2017, the Commission found that there had been a land swap conducted many years ago along the south border of the cemetery that was not subject to a Town vote. At the May 2016 Annual Town Meeting, Article 17, which concerned the Board of Selectmen’s acquisition of the land parcel, was approved by voters. The Meditation Garden was subsequently designed and planted.

Memorial Day is when Highland Cemetery seems to have the greatest number of visitors, and as a town we are very thankful for everyone’s support during this time. We thank the George B. Preston Unit 209 of the American Legion Auxiliary, along with the assistance of Troop One Boy Scouts, for planting the geraniums at all the veterans’ graves and for

ensuring that the flags are in place for the Town ceremony. We also thank the Memorial Day Committee for its work on the beautiful ceremony conducted at our Memorial Star by the front flagpole. Additional thanks go to the Town for budgeting the funds needed to buy the plants and flags.

Citizens may contribute to our gift fund, which goes toward the beautification of the cemetery. All donations are greatly appreciated and tax deductible.



*Soldiers Monument. Photo by Amelia Slawsby.*

## *Report of the* **Historical Commission**

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Stephen Kruskall, Chairman and Acting Secretary

Paul Tedesco, Historian

Richard Eels

Thomas Johnson

Jane Moore

Charlotte Surgenor

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The Historical Commission was established under Chapter 40, Section 8D, of the Massachusetts General Laws for the purposes of preserving, protecting, and developing the historical or archaeological assets of the Town of Dover. Consisting of seven members appointed by the Board of Selectmen, the Commission administers Chapter 96 (Demolition Review) of the Town of Dover General Bylaws. Its aim is to encourage owners of “preferably preserved historically significant buildings” to seek ways to preserve, rehabilitate, or restore such buildings rather than demolish them. The bylaw’s intent is to preserve the cultural heritage of Dover.

In summer 2017, as the culmination of the Commission’s years-long initiative, six markers noting Dover’s scenic brooks and waterways were erected by the Highway Department. The waterways recognized by the new signage include the Charles River, Fisher Brook, Tubwreck Brook, and Trout Brook. The Commission thanks the Board of Selectmen and the Town committees involved for helping to make this combined effort a success.

In 2017 the Commission obtained a secure storage room in the basement of the Town House as a repository for its records and historical objects. We hope that property originally belonging to the Historical Commission will continue to be returned to this centralized storage area.

The Commission wishes to thank Janet Comiskey-Giannini, its long-standing secretary who resigned from her position in June, for her years of dedicated and able service. The Commission also thanks Jane Moore, who stepped down this past summer from the Commission’s chairmanship, for her superb years of leadership.

# Report of the Council on Aging

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Camille Johnston, Chairman  
Joanne Connolly, Vice Chairman  
Maureen Dilg, Secretary  
Robert Cocks  
Betty Hagan  
Reverend Peter DiSanto  
Gilbert Thisse  
Geraldine Wise, Associate Member  
Ruth Townsend, Associate Member

Janet Claypoole, Director  
Nan Vaida, Outreach Worker  
Suzanne Sheridan, Administrative Assistant  
Andria DeSimone, Volunteer Coordinator

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The Dover Council on Aging (COA) was established by the Town in 1976, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 8B. The COA offers programs and services designed to meet the interests and needs of Dover's seniors and the families who care for them, in coordination with the Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs (MEOEA). The senior population is composed of more than 1,400 residents 60 years of age and older, representing approximately 25% of Dover's total population. The COA supports seniors and their families through general information and assistance calls, including requests for caregiving resources, transportation, and other services, with more than 4,000 communications received in 2017.

In 2017, Matthew Schmid was reappointed as the COA's representative on the Caryl Management Advisory Committee, where he advocates for seniors and for accessibility to programs.

## Senior Transportation

In 2017, the COA provided more than 450 rides to seniors aged 60 to 92 years. Qualifying seniors and disabled residents can use MetroWest Ride and purchase discounted tickets for JFK Transportation Services for rides to COA programs, medical appointments, and other MetroWest destinations, and to Boston for medical appointments. In 2017, the COA collaborated with the MetroWest Regional Transit Authority to issue same-day senior ID (Charlie Card) passes and to train seniors on their use. The COA also rents a multi-seat golf cart to transport individuals with mobility issues during the Town's Memorial Day program.

## Programs and Classes

In 2017, ongoing programs on fitness and health, socialization, nutrition, and supportive services were held at nine Dover locations. Fitness classes included Strength and Stability, Yoga for Wellness and Meditation, and Chi Gong. The COA and Parks and Recreation Department jointly offered Zumba Gold and Pickleball, a paddle sport, at the CCC gym.

The Knitting Group knitted hats, blankets, and shawls for children and adults undergoing chemotherapy treatment at area hospitals; donated items to shelters, nursing homes, veterans homes; and provided knitted gifts to seniors at the Senior Holiday Brunch hosted by the Police Department.

The Lifetime Learning educational series, sponsored by the Friends of the COA, ran classes in the spring and fall. (See: <https://tinyurl.com/y7pewbdh> and <http://coafriends.org/2017fall1.pdf> for details). The Dover and Westwood COAs ran a spring and fall hands-on cooking series, funded by their respective Friends of COA, featuring master chefs at Powisset Farm. Other COA offerings included: craft classes and special programs (card making, scarf painting, seasonal flower arrangements); Mah Jongg; the Page Turners Book Club; Tea with Friends; Senior Coffee; and Bocce Ball (at the American Legion's court). The Sand for Seniors winter program, helped by The Dover Church Men's Group, brought buckets of sand/salt to more than 30 seniors for use on icy steps and walkways.

The COA's ongoing intergenerational programs connect seniors and youth. The ukulele group, The Happy Strummers, who perform at care facilities, senior centers, and an annual COA luncheon, visited 100 fourth-grade students at Chickering School. High school students met with seniors for two technology support days and a spring cookie-decorating afternoon. In January, the Make a Difference Club of fourth- and fifth-graders invited seniors to share "gadgets" (manual typewriter, a gramophone, a slide rule, a stereoscope, and a rotary-dial telephone) at the Town Library for an afternoon of discovery and laughter.

## Senior Services

In 2017, Outreach Worker Nan Vaida, RN, continued to visit seniors to identify their needs, provide support, meet with spouses and family caregivers, and refer seniors to appropriate services. She and Director Janet Claypoole also coordinated with the Police Department to connect with isolated or at-risk seniors.

The COA offers home care and community services through its partnerships with BayPath Elder Services, the MetroWest region's Area Agency on Aging. Gil Thisse is the COA's liaison to BayPath and a member of its board of directors. In addition, the COA coordinates medical and health-related support services that include: the monthly Visiting Nurse Association's Blood Pressure Clinic, bimonthly podiatrist visits, and a medical-equipment loan program. Renee Rubin, Dover's counselor for the SHINE (Serving the Health Information Needs of Everyone) program,

provides free consultations on Medicare and other health insurance. The Police Department makes its fitness equipment available to seniors, and our new partnership with Medfield's Kingsbury Club gives seniors access to the club's pool with their COA key card.

The COA devotes a tremendous amount of time to helping seniors cope with changing health conditions, assisting families who care for aging parents, locating resources, facilitating the transition from hospital or rehab settings to home, and helping elders maintain their dignity and independence as they age in place. It also supports seniors and families dealing with crisis situations. In 2017, COA staff worked with the Police Department regarding several elder abuse and elder-at-risk situations.

To assist seniors with hearing loss, the COA included the installation of a hearing loop system that functions as a wireless antenna in the renovations of CCC's Room 108. The COA thanks the Friends of COA for this generous donation.

The COA coordinates the Town's Senior Property Tax Work Off Program. In 2017, five seniors provided part-time temporary help for municipal departments (Treasurer's Office, the COA, and the Board of Health) and in turn earned up to \$1,000 toward their property tax bills.

Finally, key issues affecting seniors were discussed at Town forums. In March, State Representative Denise Garlick hosted a Community Conversation about elder services and community issues. Selectman Candace McCann shared coffee with seniors in April, prior to the May 2017 Annual Town Meeting, to answer questions about Dover issues.

### **Trips and Movies**

In conjunction with Sherborn and Westwood, and with transportation partially funded by the Dover Friends of the COA, the Travel Committee ran many trips, including to: the Shalin Liu Performance Center; Worcester Art Museum; the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum; Tower Hill Botanical Gardens; Block Island; Norwood Theatre; Tall Ships tour, Tanglewood; Martha's Vineyard; Rhode Island Lighthouse; a Red Sox game; North Shore Music Theatre; Essex Valley Steam Train and Connecticut Riverboat tour; BSO at Symphony Hall; Victorian Christmas Tour, Eustis Estate; and Holiday Boston Pops. The COA also organized lunch trips to local inns and restaurants. The COA and The Dover Church treated seniors to free monthly movies and refreshments at the church's Kraft Hall, and a twice-yearly lunch with a movie.

### **Luncheons**

Our highly popular monthly luncheons included a Red Sox historian, an Elvis impersonator, and a New Orleans jazz band. WCVB-TV meteorologist Harvey Leonard presented on climate change at the Holiday Luncheon, and the Volunteer Recognition Luncheon honored more than 100 volunteers. Luncheons also include the Moveable Feast, hosted by Dover's four churches on a rotating basis, the Circle of Friends luncheons at Grace Church,

and lunches at the CCC, with volunteers providing the church lunches. Holiday events included the Dover Police Association Senior Brunch and the Dover American Legion Holiday Dinner. In June, the Friends of the COA hosted the fourth-annual Up in Smoke BBQ, which was open to all and featured The Centre Streeters bluegrass band. The Friends of the COA hosted the seventh-annual Harvest Brunch at the American Legion.

### **Grants**

In 2017, an MEOEA formula grant partially funded the Fitness, Chi Gong, and Zumba Gold programs, and supported the COA's administrative assistant and volunteer coordinator positions. The Cultural Council awarded the COA with a grant for "Global Longevity Factors and Rainbow Eating," a March workshop conducted by registered dietician Tricia Silverman. The COA also worked with the Sherborn COA on a grant from the MetroWest Health Foundation for a monthly men's group.

### **Volunteer Assistance**

More than 160 volunteers supported seniors with Volunteer Coordinator Andria DeSimone's help. High school and middle school students helped with snow shoveling and Spring Clean-up day. Girl Scouts, Brownies, and Daisies crafted cards, baked cookies, and sang to homebound seniors. For his Eagle Scout project, Christopher Devine built outdoor wooden benches for the COA. Volunteers delivered meals, provided office support, and helped set up, cook and bake, and clean up at luncheons. We could not provide programs and services without the time, energy, and enthusiasm of our volunteers. We greatly appreciate the kindness, generosity, and skills of these individuals.

### **Special Recognition**

The COA lost one of its own this year. Carl Sheridan, who was a retired Dover chief of police and COA outreach worker, passed away in October 2017. Carl watched over the seniors in his community during his time as a police officer and later in his role at the COA. He visited seniors in their homes, delivered meals to the homebound, helped them cope with health changes and the loss of loved ones, and took time to recognize their concerns and to listen. The Senior Coffee he started on the last Friday of each month continues to meet and be a place to talk with friends. Carl's legacy of support and compassion are part of the COA and will continue on.

The COA also mourns the loss of longtime volunteer Francis "Dapper" Hagan. He and his wife, Betty, a member of the COA Board of Directors, have been involved in the Town of Dover and supported COA programs for many years. For more than a decade, Dapper assisted Betty with the COA's monthly newsletter mailing. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family.

Access the COA's programs, calendar, and online registration at [www.doverma.org](http://www.doverma.org). Subscribe to our newsletter that reaches more than 1,000 families.

## Report of the Cultural Council

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Linda Holiner, Chairman  
Lara Clark, Recording Secretary  
Kristin Brophy, Treasurer  
Diane Brauer  
Lynn Collins  
Melissa Frank  
Shobah Frey  
Olia Lupan  
Elizabeth Rich

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The Dover Cultural Council (DCC) administers funds that it receives each year from the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC), the state agency whose mission is to “promote excellence, access, education and diversity in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences to improve the quality of life for all Massachusetts residents, and to contribute to the economic vitality of our communities.” These funds, which originate as annual appropriations of the Massachusetts Legislature, are awarded in the form of grants to individuals and organizations that support the MCC’s mission and provide cultural benefit to the Dover community.

Under the MCC’s Local Cultural Council Program, the most extensive grassroots cultural support network in the nation, the DCC received 16 grant applications for Fiscal Year (FY) 2017, an increase from the previous year. The following is an accounting of 2017 activities made possible thanks to \$5,005 in total grants awarded in FY16:\*

- Dover Foundation: creation of a 70th-anniversary book
- Dover Town Library: a John Root workshop on organic gardening and a Chinese New Year celebration
- Caryl Community Center: Diwali celebration
- Dover-Sherborn Middle School: DSMS Robotics Club
- Council on Aging: workshop on healthy eating
- Chickering Elementary School: folk dance workshop
- METCO program: conversations on community building
- Dover Historical Society: restoration of a film about Amelia Peabody

Information and grant applications (which can now be filed online) for the Local Cultural Council Program are available at [www.mass-culture.org](http://www.mass-culture.org).

*\*Erratum: These activities were incorrectly reported in the 2016 Dover Town Report as being completed in 2016.*

## Report of the Memorial Day Committee

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Jay Sullivan, Chairman  
Carol Jackman  
Keith Shaffer

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The Memorial Day exercises were held on May 30, 2017, at 6 p.m. It was a pleasure to have so many townspeople at the ceremony on the Springdale Avenue side of the Town House. The members of the George B. Preston Post 209, American Legion, posted the colors, and the Pledge of Allegiance was said by all, followed by the singing of “The Star-Spangled Banner” by Paige Carroll. Reverend Sean Leonard of St. Dunstan’s Church then delivered the invocation. Carol Jackman, former State President of the Massachusetts American Legion Auxiliary, gave the main address, highlighting the history of Highland Cemetery. Paige Carroll then sang “God Bless America,” after which the Committee continued the tradition of introducing all veterans in attendance. Reverend Peter DiSanto of Grace Church offered the benediction.

The parade to Highland Cemetery then took place under the supervision of Grand Marshal Robert O’Connell, United States Army. The parade stopped enroute so that Robert O’Connell could place flowers in memory of all Dover’s deceased veterans at the foot of Town Monument. The parade buglers were Ethan Sveen and Katya Mazurenko. The Committee thanks Tom Duprey of the Dover-Sherborn Middle School Music Department for arranging for the buglers’ performance.

Graveside services were conducted near the cemetery’s flagpole and star, where Reverend John Grimes of Most Precious Blood Church offered a prayer. The Committee then carried out the traditional reading of names of Dover’s own who died in battle. Everyone returned to the Town House for the raising of the flag and a prayer by Reverend Dr. Maxwell Olmstead of Dover Church. Members of the American Legion then marched to their post home to raise their colors.

Special thanks go to everyone who made this event possible, including the Town House staff, the Police Department, the Fire Department, the Boy Scouts, the Cub Scouts, the Girls Scouts, and the Brownies. A special thank-you goes to the Council on Aging and the American Legion for their joint efforts in providing a golf cart for those who were unable to march. The Committee also wishes to thank the Dover American Legion Auxiliary, assisted by Dover Boy Scouts Troop 1, for decorating the graves of all veterans with geraniums and flags, and the American Legion for hosting their annual cookout for all participants and all townspeople in attendance.

## Report of the Department of Veterans' Services

Paul Carew, District Director

The Department of Veterans' Services performs the functions assigned to it by Chapter 115 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Chief among them is the administration of a benefits program provided to veterans and their families in need.

The Department maintains a depository of discharges and records of service for matters to be brought before the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, including claims for pension, compensation for service-connected disabilities, educational benefits, burial benefits, and headstones and markers. The office also processes applications for hospitalization and medical care.

Veterans Administration benefit forms are available in our office at 117 East Central Street, Natick, MA. The director is there to serve our veterans and is glad to provide assistance, including help with filing the appropriate paperwork for applicable benefits. Please call us at 508-647-6545.



Photo by Katrina Margolis; courtesy of The Hometown Weekly.

## Report of the Financial and Energy Assistance Coordinator

Erika Nagy

The Town of Dover provides information and assistance to its residents who are facing energy-related emergencies. The Financial and Energy Assistance Coordinator is appointed by the Board of Selectmen to facilitate this service.

In 2017, the Coordinator worked with the Board of Selectmen's office to send out information with the property tax mailing. This way of communicating with residents provides information directly to people who may benefit from available services. In 2017, the Coordinator continued to meet with residents to answer questions and connect them with resources, which include:

- *The Town of Dover*, which assists residents who face energy and utility emergencies, including shut-offs ([www.doverma.org](http://www.doverma.org)).
- *The South Middlesex Opportunity Council (SMOC)*, which offers fuel assistance, weatherization, appliance management and conservation, and heating system tune-up and repair to eligible families and individuals ([www.smoc.org](http://www.smoc.org)).
- *The Salvation Army*, which provides limited financial subsidies to those needing emergency food and clothing ([massachusetts.salvationarmy.org](http://massachusetts.salvationarmy.org)).
- *The Good Neighbor Energy Program*, which offers fuel assistance to "over-income" families and individuals ([www.magoodneighbor.org/index.html](http://www.magoodneighbor.org/index.html)).

For further information and assistance with these and other programs, please contact Erika Nagy at (508) 654-7778 or [enagy.financialenergy-dover@gmail.com](mailto:enagy.financialenergy-dover@gmail.com). To learn more about this Town service, visit [www.doverma.org/town-government/boards-committees/energy-coordinator](http://www.doverma.org/town-government/boards-committees/energy-coordinator).

# Report of the Caryl Management Advisory Committee

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Kathy Weld, Chairman  
Christopher Boland, Parks and Recreation  
Valerie Marden  
Candace McCann, Board of Selectmen  
Alexia Pearsall  
Matthew Schmid, Council on Aging  
Ruth Townsend

Mark Ghiloni, Director, Parks and Recreation  
David W. Ramsay, Town Administrator  
Karl Warnick, Buildings and Maintenance Superintendent

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The Caryl Management Advisory Committee (CMAC) provides advice and counsel to the Board of Selectmen on the maintenance and operations of the Caryl Community Center (CCC), a role it has had since 2002, when the Dover School Committee turned over the control and care of the building to the Board of Selectmen. The CMAC is composed of seven voting members: four at-large and one each from the Board of Selectmen, the Council on Aging (COA), and the Parks and Recreation Commission.

The CCC currently provides much-needed space—no longer consistently available elsewhere in the Town—for the COA (since 2013) and Parks and Recreation (2004) for their offices, programs and activities, and storage; four paying tenants with dedicated space—The Center for the Development of Children (since 2002), Erin’s School of Dance (2003), Parent Talk (2003), and Community Cycle fitness studio (November 2017); and several community groups and individuals who rent the non-dedicated space regularly or intermittently. Among the biggest regular user groups in 2017 were the Dover Foundation and Open Fields, which used the CCC as rehearsal space for their major productions. Scouts, garden clubs, the Dover Mothers’ Association, and private citizens all booked space for activities, from meetings to birthday parties.

For the past 15 years, the Committee has focused primarily on addressing the accumulated deferred maintenance of previous years and on recommending improvements to increase the safety, functionality, and attractiveness of the CCC for the increasing number of its multi-generational users. Minor improvements ongoing from 2003–18 have included general refurbishments, such as wall repair and painting, floor repair, carpet replacement in all spaces, installation of air conditioning

in COA rooms, installation of new water coolers and signage throughout, and paving of the rear parking lot—all of which have been funded through a combination of the operating and capital budgets.

Major improvements have included a new roof (2008), along with structural and masonry repairs to seal and stabilize the building (2009); replacement of the underground oil tanks (2011); and the full renovation of the four public restrooms (2016). These major projects have all been presented as special articles, which have required—and have received—specific consideration and approval by voters at annual town meetings.

In 2017, the Committee focused its attention on the remaining major infrastructure improvements required to bring the CCC up to the standard of the other municipal buildings under the care and control of the Selectmen. These improvements were originally outlined in the Deferred Maintenance Report of 2003 (updated in 2004 as a single project). They have been a part of every CCC study since then and will finally be presented at the May 2018 Annual Town Meeting:

1. Replacement of the two 1930s-era boilers, for reliable and more efficient heat;
2. Replacement of the HVAC control system, for the even and efficient distribution of that heat, and planned simultaneously with the boilers as recommended by the mechanical engineers—both for overall project cost savings and to ensure that all system components are of the same generation;
3. Accessibility upgrades to bring the entire facility into full compliance with current state accessibility codes—a requirement triggered by the fact that the cost of the project is greater than one-third of the building’s assessed value;
4. Electrical upgrades: Replacement of the 1971 switchgear and panels, the fire alarm system, and the emergency generator; upgrade of the hallway lighting; and
5. Common area improvements: Replacement of deteriorated flooring on hallways and stairways (which will have the added benefit of eliminating some of the most obvious vestiges of an old school); installation of acoustical ceiling tiles in hallways.

The Committee and the Board of Selectmen have weighed the merits of a single integrated project versus an incremental, phased approach to accomplishing these necessary improvements. Because the components of this project are all very closely interrelated, both the consultant and the engineers strongly recommended that they be presented and completed as a single project, at an estimated cost of approximately \$4 million. In so doing, the Town will realize significant cost savings—in the initial procurement process (one-time instead of multiple times); in construction

overhead (including legal fees, procurement of construction services, and project management); in cost escalation over time; and in costs of minimizing disruption during construction in an occupied building.

We are pleased to report that the CCC is active and thriving. As major improvements have been made, building usage has increased. Both the COA and Parks and Recreation have been expanding their programming and enjoying increased participation. In November, we welcomed a new tenant, Community Cycle, whose owners have extensively renovated and equipped their dedicated space, attracting a whole new group of users to the CCC. Our hallway wall displays feature various aspects of our community, and the newly paved parking lot is often full.

The Committee has proven its ability to adapt to the changing space needs and demands of the CCC's current users, and it seeks to maintain this flexibility to accommodate future uses that are consistent with the character and ethos of the Town.

We encourage organizations and citizens of all ages to use the CCC for personal or community-based activities, to take advantage of programs currently offered, or to request new activities or programs. For more information, please visit our website, linked directly from the Town's home page at [www.doverma.org](http://www.doverma.org).



Photo courtesy of the Council on Aging.

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## *The Dover Foundation at 70*

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The Dover Foundation is an independent, nonprofit, volunteer organization of interested and generous individuals who work together for the benefit of the citizens of Dover. Its history began when the entire town of Dover came together to support and comfort two families whose two teenage daughters tragically lost their lives in a car accident. In gratitude, the grieving families donated the monies they had saved for their daughters' college education to the Town, with the request that they be used "to help other students gain a college education."

In May 1947, 31 Dover residents gathered at the Town House to form an organization rooted in the spirit of the families' selfless generosity. Their goals were: "...to promote neighborliness, cooperation, and good feeling among the citizens of Dover by means of a community effort" to raise funds to further the education of Dover's youth; and to knit together the community through educational, recreational, and other charitable projects.

The group's first community effort was a musical revue, *A Minstrel Show*, performed later in 1947. It was a huge success and was soon followed in 1948 by *Dover Follies*, the proceeds from which funded the first of many scholarships—\$500 to two individuals. The Dover Foundation became a legal entity in January 1950, at which point the families' donation of \$162 was transferred to the Foundation from the Town. The Foundation has since gone on to produce more than 75 plays, cabarets, Broadway musicals, and original works, and, in recent years, has welcomed participants from other towns. In 2014–17 alone, it performed *Oliver!*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, and *Guys and Dolls*, each of which involved more than 80 cast, crew, and orchestra members.

Throughout its 70 years, The Dover Foundation has remained true to its founding purpose of bringing together the Dover community for the good of others. Hundreds of Dover citizens from all walks of life have participated in its shows and activities, and thousands more have enjoyed watching them. More than 500 Dover high school seniors have received over \$600,000 in scholarship grants. Many cross-generational projects have also benefitted from its generous support, including the Channing Pond skating rink and the tennis and summer playground programs (1950s–60s); Dover Choral Society, Dover Dig, and Boy Scout cabin rebuilding (1970s); new stage curtains at the Town House (1981); and auditorium lighting at the high school (1993). The Foundation welcomes requests for funding of community projects.



*The Dover Foundation's rich tradition of community seervice, from the beginning, A Minstrel Show (1947), to the present, Guys and Dolls (2017).*



On its seventieth anniversary, we celebrate this treasured community organization by thanking all who have been a part of it and wishing the Foundation both the continued support of Dover's citizenry and a long theatrical life.

*– Sheridan Miller,  
Member, The Dover Foundation  
[www.thedoverfoundation.com](http://www.thedoverfoundation.com)*