

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

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John T. Donoghue, Chair  
Suzanne Sheridan, Secretary  
George Arnold Jr.  
Robert Springett, Board of Selectmen  
Mark Sarro, Planning Board  
Matthew Schmid  
Robert Andrews, 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 2018, the LRPC focused its work mostly on reviewing the formerly proposed Open Space Preservation Bylaw. This was done in conjunction with the Planning Board. The Open Space Preservation Bylaw had been brought before the May 2008 Annual Town Meeting, but it was narrowly defeated after not receiving the necessary two-thirds vote required to pass a Zoning Article. It is the consensus of the Planning Board and the LRPC that it is time to revisit the merits of the Open Space Preservation Bylaw and perhaps revise the version previously defeated.

The Planning Board is convening a working group on the Open Space Zoning Bylaw, which will include members of the LRPC and of many other Town boards and committees. The group's objective will be to determine whether or not to present a revised version of the Open Space Preservation Bylaw for consideration at the May 2020 Annual Town Meeting.

We would like to thank Peter Smith for his invaluable service, as well as John Jeffries and Gordon Kinder for their service and contributions to the LRPC.

# DOVER

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## *Other Town Reports*

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# 2018



## Report of the Town Library

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Board of Trustees

Adrian Hill, Co-Chair

Judith Schulz, Co-Chair

Mark Bush

Kimberly Hatfield

Erin Rodat-Savla

Tracy Tobin

Cheryl Abdullah, Library Director

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Dover is home to an award-winning library. For the past five years, the Dover Town Library (DTL) has been recognized as a Star Library by the *Library Journal*. U.S. public libraries are scored nationally using the LJ Index of Public Library Service, a national rating system based on per-capita statistics of circulation, library visits, program attendance, and public Internet computer use. In 2012, the DTL also received the distinguished Gates Foundation Award as “Best Small Library in North America” finalist. We are very proud of the national recognition bestowed on our “small town library.”

Having recently updated and renovated the library space for families and friends to enjoy, find a great read, a useful tool, or to have a cup of coffee, the staff has now turned its focus to upgrading the card catalog. Changes and improvements made to catalog item records will provide better detailed information on available materials and their locations. To succeed, these efforts require interdepartmental coordination and working closely with the Minuteman Library Network. This time-consuming “behind-the-scenes” work might not be readily noticeable; however, the end result will be a greatly improved patron experience and a more efficient management and flow of materials.

We continue to add more fiction and Speed Reads, as well as multiple copies of in-demand titles to our lists. To provide Dover residents with preferred access to the latest titles and to ensure that more titles are available for browsing, all new books remain in-house for up to six months before becoming available for interlibrary loans.

Improvements made to our nonfiction collection include an expanded range of interests, scope, objectivity, authorship, and accuracy of our holdings. We also aim to maintain a core collection of materials that reflects a basic understanding of the major disciplines.

We are in constant pursuit of titles and materials that can improve our collections and delight our patrons. Public recommendations and requests weigh heavily in our purchasing decisions, which must comply with our

materials selection policy and budget. Moreover, decisions regarding selections and the organization and dissemination of materials are informed by professional journals and popular lists based on current library principles, standards, and best practices. Although our library is a small-town library, our membership in the large consortium of Minuteman Libraries gives us access to a vast selection of materials that are usually received within a few days of a request, virtually expanding our library's physical space.

Beyond the brick and mortar, we offer many DTL-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*, podcasts, transcripts, more than 8,000 professional journals, as well as the following:

- **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 from around the world 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 by accessing hundreds of instructor-led, online classes offering CEU credits.
- **RBdigital Magazines**, the world's largest newsstand, offers full-color digital magazines for reading anytime, anywhere, on desktops, mobile devices, and through apps. Our collection of popular digital magazines includes both new and backlist titles with no holds, no checkout periods, and no limits.
- **Hoopla.com** provides access to free digital movies, music, and books instantly with no waiting time, 24/7 with your library card.
- **Acorn TV** offers world-class mysteries, dramas, and comedies from Britain and beyond.
- **Qello** offers more than 1,500 full-length concerts and music documentaries from the 1920s to today's hottest artists.
- **Pongalo** delivers Spanish language telenovelas and movies and content for kids.
- **Great Courses Library Collection** contains 180 of the most popular courses taught by the world's top professors.

- **METHOD Test Prep** offers self-paced lessons and quizzes proven to help students significantly raise their SAT and ACT test scores.
- **Learn It Live** offers thousands of live and on-demand classes on more than 100 topics that focus on health, wellness, and personal development.
- **Ancestry.com** allows you to explore your personal history and family tree. Access is limited to within the library only.

Thanks to the DTL's membership in the Minuteman Library Network, Dover residents also have access to downloadable materials from Overdrive Media Services, a digital reading platform.

Our children's library is a vibrant, energized environment. In 2018, its successful programs served more than 15,500 attendees. Early literacy experiences are universally acknowledged to provide positive physical and mental health benefits, including by encouraging social interaction, enhancing basic cognitive skills, and inspiring curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, positively setting the stage for continuing education. Super Awesome Fun Time continues to draw in capacity crowds with our staff-led story, music, movement, and sensory activities. This year, we added Baby Fun Time and Fun Bunch Playtime. Bedtime Math's Crazy 8s Club was popular for children aged 6 to 10 years, while teen volunteers were prominent in offering assistance for a variety of programs. The Summer Reading Program finished its second year with a 56% increase in participation.

The DTL regularly collaborates and partners with local businesses, schools, and other Town departments. Chief Peter McGowan of the Dover Police Department leads our Local Hero Storytime. The Highway Department participates in the annual Big Truck Day by displaying the Town's utility trucks and fire equipment, taking time to explain their operation to local families. To succeed, these programs require scheduling, coordination, and cooperation by many individuals. We are grateful to Superintendent of Streets Craig Hughes, his department staff, and Chief McGowan, who tirelessly give their time and energy to ensure that everyone has a good time and learns something along the way.

The DTL and Elm Bank offer an exchange of programs throughout the year with events and programs held in both venues. During the summer, Super Awesome Fun Time takes place at DTL in the gardens, and the garden staff runs several informational programs. Library outreach occurs at local-area schools, from preschools to high schools. Carey Dardompre, Dover-Sherborn Middle School's French teacher, sponsored a Haitian storyteller and music event at the library. Charles River School's Academic Technology Department and the library are co-sponsoring a number of events to be held 2019.

Every library program, unique object, toy, and circulating technology item exists thanks to financial support from the Friends of the Library, private donations, and grants. Community programming takes place daily

at the library and is an important part of our services. On any given day you can find something that may pique your interest or satisfy your curiosity. Programs stimulate dialogue and introduce ideas and culture for our community members to enjoy. DTL book clubs support stimulating discourse and social interaction. “Exploration Stations” geared for adults, teens and children provide hands-on experiences in multiple disciplines. Our Teen Programming is expanding. We also offer a Museum Pass Program, Virtual Reality Station, and Tea and Trivia Thursdays. All our offerings and events are listed on our website and calendar.

Our unique objects collection is appreciated by many patrons who see the economic value of having items available to try before purchasing or just to borrow for fun or an annual chore. Patrons may borrow a Sizzix Big Shot Plus die-cutter machine for their crafting needs, a Nintendo Switch video-game console, a drone, or a small kitchen appliance. Families enjoy playing board or backyard games, pitching a tent, or using a metal detector. Most of our objects offer a hands-on component related to a particular discipline, enhance a family gathering, or aid in a task. No matter the reason, these objects are finding their way into people’s daily lives

Because play is vital to a child’s mastery of complex strategies in language, social interactions, physical movement, and problem solving, toys make up an essential part of our collection. Many of our toys are appropriate for differently abled children and are designed to benefit growth and learning and the development of specific skills. 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 DTL is proud to partner 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 individuals who possess specific skills that can enhance our library’s services.

The DTL staff looks forward to serving you and your family. We are committed to our library’s mission of providing free open access to knowledge, information, and culture. We are always pleased to assist with reader’s advisory, 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, to offer a variety of engaging programs, and to make the Dover Town Library a worthwhile destination for you and your family.

Please stop by the library, visit our webpage at <http://dovertownlibrary.org> or call us at 508-785-8113.

## Library Statistics for Fiscal Year 2018

*(July 2017–June 2018)*

State Aid	\$10,342
Circulation	198,136
Library Visits	87,756
Items Loaned	15,603
Items Borrowed	14,603
Holdings	236,291
Registered Borrowers	3,248
Program Attendance	19,536



*The Dover Town Library. Photo by Bill McMahon.*

# Report of the Cemetery Commission

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Pope Hoffman, Chair  
Carol Jackman, Secretary  
Laina Swiny

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During 2018, eight families bought grave lots at Highland Cemetery: three two-grave lots, four four-grave lots, and one eight-grave lot. 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 \$8,800. The perpetual care income was \$33,000. The total income from purchased lots and perpetual care was \$41,800.

Twenty-seven funerals were held in 2018, of which eight were cremations and 19 were full burials. Nine of the funeral services were for veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces. A total of \$22,050 was collected for 2018 funerals. The income from regular full burials (\$9,000) and cremations (\$1,500) totaled \$10,500. There was a surcharge revenue total of \$11,550 for holiday and weekend burials and miscellaneous surcharges of \$175. Income from setting foundations and markers was \$2,900.

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 Highway Department, under the supervision of Craig Hughes, assists us on an as-needed basis and 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.

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 quite a few trees planted this year to replace those that were cut down due to their deteriorating condition.

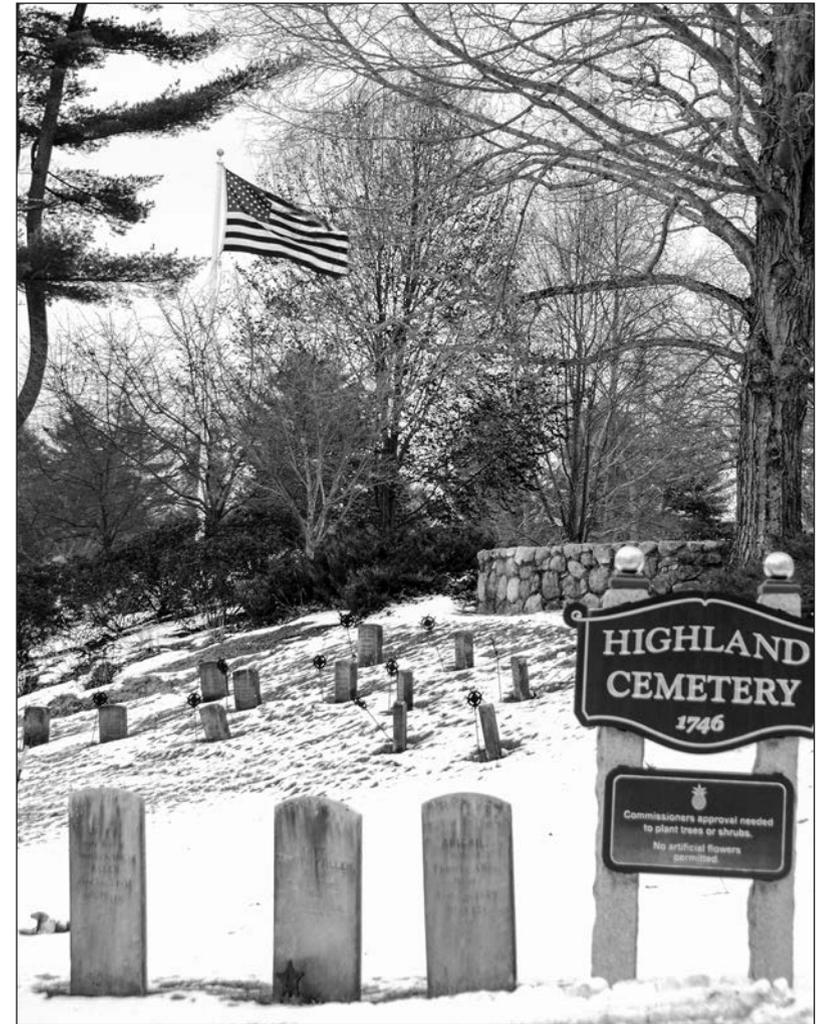
The fences along the southern border, (stockade and post and rail) were in very poor condition and were replaced during the summer after an extensive survey to determine the exact lot line. The survey was conducted by Norfolk County Engineering, and the funds for the fences were provided by the George Chickering Trust Fund.

A bench has been placed in the meditation garden at the back of the cemetery. The garden is sited and designed to provide visitors with an area for contemplation and reflection, and it offers a beautiful view of the cemetery.

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 Post 209 of the American

Legion Auxiliary, along with the assistance of Dover Boy Scouts Troop 1, 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.



*Photo by David W. Stapleton.*

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

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Stephen Kruskall, Chair  
Richard Eels, Secretary  
Sierra Bright  
Thomas Johnson  
Candace McCann  
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 2018, the Commission reviewed 13 permit requests for the demolition of existing houses and buildings. None of these 20th-century structures were deemed to qualify for historic preservation. The Commission did grant the right to display the official Dover historic house marker to two Dover homes constructed in the 1800s. These homes are located at 72 Farm Street and 15 Strawberry Hill Street.

The Commission welcomed new members Sierra Bright and Candace McCann and bid a fond adieu to Paul Tedesco, whose decades of service recording and preserving our town’s history should be remembered for generations of Dover residents to come.

## *Report of the* **Council on Aging**

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

Janet Claypoole, Director  
Nan Vaida, Outreach Worker  
Annemarie Thompson, Volunteer Coordinator  
Suzanne Sheridan, Administrative Assistant

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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 1,460 residents 60 years of age and older, representing approximately 24% 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 750 people accessing services in 2018.

In 2018, Matthew Schmid was reappointed as COA representative on the Caryl Management Advisory Committee, where he advocates for seniors and for accessibility to programs at the Caryl Community Center (CCC).

### **Needs Assessment Project**

In 2018, the COA, with SOAR Management Consulting Group, conducted a needs assessment regarding residents (including seniors) to explore community perceptions of the COA and seniors and to inform its future planning. Research included phone interviews with community stakeholders, focus groups, a comparative study of neighboring COAs, and an online survey. The survey yielded recommendations for volunteer development; raising awareness of COA services through marketing, branding, and communications; developing more intergenerational programs and services; attracting a broader range of participants; and examining the COA’s role as advocate for seniors’ needs and interests. Actions include a short-term

implementation plan that allows COA staff and COA Board members to address these needs and a revamped newsletter featuring programs, outreach services, and volunteer opportunities mailed bimonthly to Dover households.

### **Senior Transportation**

In 2018, the COA provided more than 375 rides to seniors. Qualifying seniors and disabled residents use MetroWest Ride and buy discounted JFK Transportation Services rides to COA programs, medical appointments, and other MetroWest destinations, and to Boston for medical appointments. JFK transported homebound seniors to COA lunches and programs, and the Friends of the COA (FoCOA) funded the rental of a golf cart to assist seniors and veterans with mobility issues during the Town's Memorial Day activities.

### **Other Senior Services**

In 2018, Outreach Worker Nan Vaida, RN, continued visiting seniors to identify needs, provide support, meet with spouses and family caregivers, and refer seniors to services. She and Director Janet Claypoole coordinated with the Police Department to check on isolated or at-risk seniors. The COA offers home and community services in partnership with BayPath Elder Services, the MetroWest region's Area Agency on Aging. Gil Thisse is COA liaison to BayPath and sits on its board of directors. The COA also coordinates health support services, including the monthly Visiting Nurse Association's Blood Pressure Clinic, bimonthly podiatrist visits, and a medical-equipment loan program. Renee Rubin, Dover's SHINE program counselor (Serving the Health Information Needs of Everyone), provides free consultations on Medicare and other health insurance. The Police Department makes its fitness equipment available to seniors, and the Medfield's Kingsbury Club gives seniors access to its pool.

The COA devotes a tremendous amount of time to helping seniors cope with changing health conditions, assisting family caregivers, 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. In March, the COA, with The Dover Church and Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital-Needham, presented "Aging Safely in Your Home" and "Tips and Support for Caregivers" workshops. The COA helps seniors and families in crisis situations and works with the Police Department regarding elder abuse and elder-at-risk situations.

In 2018, five seniors participated in the COA-coordinated Senior Property Tax Work-Off Program. Seniors provide part-time temporary help for the Treasurer's Office, COA, and Board of Health for up to \$1,500 applied toward property tax bills.

Finally, appearances by public officials included Senator Mike Rush, who met with residents in March, and Selectman Candace McCann who answered questions about Dover issues a month prior to the Annual Town Meeting. At the May Luncheon, Police Chief Peter McGowan and the

Norfolk County Sheriff's and District Attorney's Offices discussed senior scams and identity theft. Chief McGowan and Selectman John Jeffries also met with residents, in June and October respectively. The Registry of Motor Vehicles ran a workshop on the federal REAL ID.

### **Programs and Classes**

In 2018, 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 offered a Painting Class, Zumba Gold, and expanded sessions of Pickleball at the CCC gym. The COA and the Town Library co-hosted weekly Chi Gong and monthly Pageturners Book Club meetings. The Knitting Group made hats and shawls for children and adults undergoing chemotherapy treatment and donated items to nursing homes, veterans, and the Police Department's Senior Holiday Brunch. They also knit items for the Dover Days Fair to fund-raise for the FoCOA.

The FoCOA sponsors the spring/fall Lifetime Learning educational series ([www.coafriends.org](http://www.coafriends.org)), which includes the ever-popular Fun with the Ukulele class, members of which perform as The Happy Strummers at care facilities, senior centers, churches, and COA luncheons. The Dover and Westwood FoCOAs funded a spring/fall hands-on cooking series at Powisset Farm, while the Dover FoCOA and The Trustees of Reservations funded a Powisset CSA share to provide weekly fresh vegetables to seniors. Craft classes and special programs include card making, scarf painting, flower arrangement, Mah Jongg, Tea with Friends, Senior Coffee, and Bocce Ball (American Legion court). The Sand for Seniors winter program, helped by The Dover Church Men's Group, brought sand/salt to more than 30 seniors for icy steps and walkways.

Under the COA's intergenerational programs, high school students met with seniors for two Technology Support days, decorated for a Halloween celebration, and hosted Pizza and a Holiday Movie for seniors. The Make a Difference Club of fourth graders invited seniors to share "old-time gadgets" (manual typewriter, kitchen items, rotary-dial telephone) at the library.

Free music offerings included a classical concert, funded by the FoCOA and held at St. Dunstan's Church, and a violin-piano duo who performed for more than 70 residents.

### **Trips and Movies**

The Travel Committee organized the following trips in conjunction with Sherborn and Westwood COAs and with transportation partially funded by the FoCOA: Harvard Art Museums; The Boston Flower & Garden Show; *An American in Paris* musical at the Providence Performing Arts Center; Peabody Essex Museum; Worcester Art Museum; Lobster Bake & Foxwoods Resort Casino; Newport rail tour; Nantucket day trip; Gloucester Lobster Cruise; Sandwich Glass Museum; Blithewold

Mansion, Gardens & Arboretum; Boston Symphony Orchestra; Lake Winnepesaukee cruise; Friesians of Majesty horses trip, Vermont; Charles River architecture cruise; overnight trip to Saratoga Springs, NY; and an eight-day trip to Grand Canyon, Bryce Canyon, and Zion National Parks! The COA also organized lunch trips to local inns and restaurants. The COA and The Dover Church held free monthly movies with refreshments at the church's Kraft Hall and a twice-yearly lunch and movie.

### **Luncheons**

Our highly popular monthly luncheons included entertainment from The Happy Strummers Ukulele Group, musician David Polansky, Sherborn Music Makers, historian Dr. Gary Hylander, and Joy Marzolf from Mass Audubon/Broadmoor Wildlife Sanctuary. The Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon honored more than 90 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 coordinating the church lunches. The annual picnic at Powisset Farm was held in August with our Sherborn COA friends. Holiday events included the Dover Police Association Senior Brunch and the Dover American Legion Holiday Dinner. In June, the FoCOA hosted the fifth-annual Up in Smoke BBQ, open to all, with more than 90 attendees, and featuring guitarist Sean Fullerton. The FoCOA hosted the eighth-annual Harvest Brunch at the American Legion.

### **Grants**

In 2018, an MEOEA formula grant partially funded the Fitness, Chi Gong, and Zumba Gold programs, and supported our administrative assistant and volunteer coordinator positions. The COA continues to collaborate with the Sherborn COA on a MetroWest Health Foundation grant for a monthly men's lunch group.

### **Volunteer Assistance**

In August, Annemarie Thompson was hired as Volunteer Coordinator to fill a position left open since January. In 2018, more than 120 volunteers of all ages supported seniors. D-S High School and D-S Middle School students helped shovel snow and do yardwork. Girl Scouts, Brownies, and Daisies crafted cards, baked cookies, and sang to homebound seniors. Volunteers delivered meals, provided office support, and helped set up, cook and bake, and clean up at luncheons. We could not provide our programs and services without the time, energy, and enthusiasm of our volunteers, who are our most important asset. We greatly appreciate their kindness, generosity, and skills.

To access the COAs programs, activity calendar, and online registration, or view the newsletter, visit our Web page at [www.doverma.org](http://www.doverma.org) (under "Government"/"Town Offices"). Volunteers are always welcome and greatly appreciated, so please consider offering a helping hand to your neighbors and community.

## *Report of the* **Cultural Council**

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Lynn Toney Collins, Chair  
Wendy Bornstein, Secretary  
Shobha Frey, Treasurer  
Diane Brauer  
Kristin Brophy  
Linda Holiner  
Sarah Kahoun

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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 21 grant applications and awarded \$5,668 in grants for Fiscal Year 2018 to:

- The Dover Parks and Recreation Department: Summer concert series (\$500)
- The Friends of the Dover Council on Aging: Ukulele class (\$538)
- The Dover Town Library: "From JAZZ to Hip-Hop" dance and music presentation (\$400); Monet's Magic pastel painting workshop (\$495); and "Libraries Rock" rocket building workshop (\$450)
- The Dover Foundation: Spring play, *Rumors* (\$495)
- Powisset Farm: Summer "Shakespeare in the Park" theater productions (\$300)
- The Dover Historical Society: Restoration of a historic clock (\$600)
- The Chickering Elementary School: Artist-in-residence program (\$500)

- The Dover-Sherborn Middle School: Presentation of *To Kill a Mockingbird* by the New Repertory Theatre's Classic Repertory Company (\$450) and for the school's Drama Festival (\$500)
- The Dover-Sherborn High School: Honors/AP Art field trip to the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art (\$140) and for a VoiceStream master class (\$300)

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).



*Dover Foundation production of Rumors. Photo by Katherine White.*

## *Report of the* Memorial Day Committee

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Carol Jackman, Chair  
Chris Jackman  
Jay Sullivan

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The Memorial Day exercises were held on May 30, 2018, 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 (the Legion), posted the colors, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all. Reverend Dr. C. Maxwell Olmstead of Dover Church then delivered the invocation. Jack Savage, Commander of the Legion, gave the main address, highlighting the centennial anniversary of the death of George G. Preston. The Dover-Sherborn High School Concert Band then presented "A Patriotic Salute," arranged by Ralph Ford, under the direction of Janice Barry. Afterward, the Committee continued the tradition of introducing all veterans in attendance. Reverend Olmstead offered the benediction.

The parade to Highland Cemetery then took place under the supervision of Grand Marshal John Miele, United States Army. Before entering Highland Cemetery, the parade stopped at Soldiers Monument to place flowers in memory of Dover's deceased veterans.

Graveside services were conducted near the cemetery's flagpole and star, where Reverend Peter DiSanto of Grace Church offered a prayer. Parade buglers were Ethan Sveen and Robert Giasi. 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 John Grimes of Most Precious Blood Church. Members of the Legion 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 Dover Boy Scouts Troop 1, the Cub Scouts, the Girls Scouts, and the Brownies. A special thank-you goes to the Council on Aging and the Legion for their joint efforts in providing a golf cart for those that were unable to march. The Committee also wishes to thank the Dover American Legion Auxiliary, assisted by the Boys Scouts, for decorating the graves of all veterans with geraniums and flags, and the Legion for hosting their annual cookout for all parade participants and townspeople in attendance.

Report of the  
**Department of Veterans' Services**

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Paul Carew, District Director

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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.



Memorial Day parade. Photo by Ford Spalding.

Report of the  
**Financial and Energy Assistance  
Coordinator**

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Erika Nagy

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

In 2018, the Coordinator continued to meet with residents to assist them in the preparation of fuel assistance forms and to answer questions and connect them with state and federal resources, including:

- *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 774-567-0034 or [financialenergydover@gmail.com](mailto:financialenergydover@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, Chair  
Christopher Boland, Parks and Recreation  
Valerie Marden  
Alexia Pearsall  
Matthew Schmid, Council on Aging  
Robert Springett, Board of Selectmen  
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 transferred control of the building to the Board of Selectmen. It 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 the Parks and Recreation (2004) for their offices, programs and activities, and storage; for four paying tenants (The Center for the Development of Children [since 2002], Erin’s School of Dance [2003], Parent Talk [2003], and Community Cycle fitness studio [2017]); and several community groups and individuals who rent the non-dedicated space regularly or intermittently. Among the biggest regular user groups in 2018 were The Dover Foundation and Open Fields, which used the CCC as a rehearsal space for their major productions. Scouts, garden clubs, the Dover Mothers’ Association, and private citizens all booked space for activities, including meetings and birthday parties.

The CMAC has spent much of the past 15 years addressing the accumulated deferred maintenance of previous years and on recommending improvements to increase the safety, functionality, and attractiveness of the CCC for the growing number of its multigenerational users. During this time, voters at annual town meetings have considered and approved approximately \$215,000 for studies and approximately \$1.73 million for major improvements, including 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). The numerous other improvements have been funded through a combination of the operating and capital budgets.

From January to May 2018, the CMAC devoted considerable energy and effort to overseeing the public presentation of the final remaining improvements, originally outlined in the 2003 Deferred Maintenance Study, required to bring the CCC up to the standard of the other municipal buildings under the care and control of the Selectmen. This major infrastructure maintenance project, estimated to cost \$4 million, included replacement of the two 1930s-era boilers; replacement of the 45-year-old heating/ventilation piping and control system; accessibility upgrades (required) to bring the entire facility into full compliance with current state accessibility codes; electrical system upgrades; and various common area improvements. Although the proposal had the support of the COA, it faced split or negative votes on the Parks and Recreation Commission, the Board of Selectmen, and the Capital Budget and Warrant Committees, and ultimately failed to receive voter approval at the May 2018 Annual Town Meeting.

By mid-November, the Board of Selectmen had determined a course of action regarding the CCC, appointed a CCC Project Committee, and charged it with presenting options, including cost and maintenance projections, to a special town meeting in fall 2019. The options would be to fully renovate the CCC, demolish the CCC and build a new smaller facility to meet program needs, or, as a fallback, continue making incremental improvements as needed. The CMAC would not be directly involved but would continue in its advisory role and provide information to the Selectmen and the CCC Project Committee, if and when called upon to do so.

Despite the indefinite postponement of the much-needed upgrades, the CCC has continued to thrive and grow. Previous major improvements and the expanded programming in both the COA and Parks and Recreation departments have all contributed to increased building usage by Dover residents, as well as non-residents.

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).

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## George B. Preston American Legion Post 209

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The American Legion, chartered by Congress in 1919, is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that supports active service members and veterans; advocates for patriotism, honor, and strong national security; and sponsors community programs. Dover Legion Post 209 is named after George Bernard Preston, killed during WWI at age 20.

The Legion's membership includes veterans, Sons of the American Legion (men whose close family members are or were veterans), and the Women's Auxiliary (open to female relatives of American Legion members or veterans).



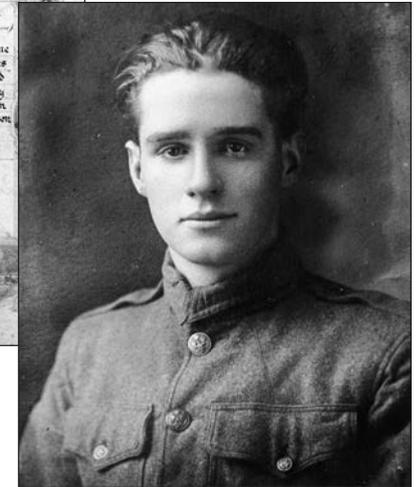
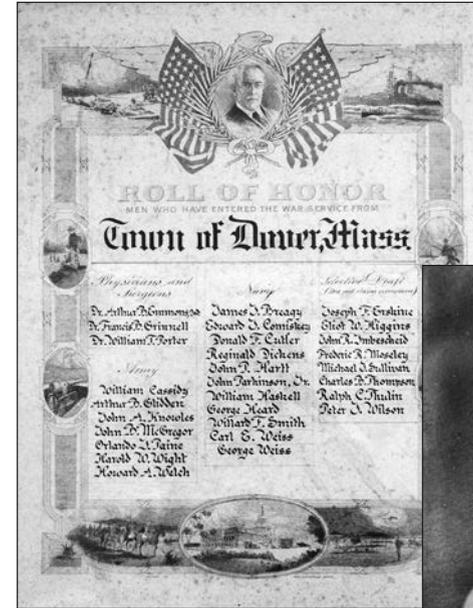
Photo by Amelia Slawsby.

The Legion originally held its meetings at the Town House, until 1956, when the Town donated the land upon which members—mostly WWI, WWII, and Korean War veterans—built the new post that today offers a meeting area with a bar and pool table and a fully equipped, rentable function hall.

The Legion remains strong and active, thanks to members who volunteer their time and energy in support of the Legion's activities, including its annual Christmas tree sale, which began in the mid-1960s and serves more than 500 area families. Proceeds support the post's facilities operation, its programs and events (Memorial Day community cookout, Christmas dinner for Dover seniors, children's Christmas party, Dover Music Fest), and its charitable donations (Dover-Sherborn college scholarship fund, Service Dog Project in Ipswich, MA). Nonmember Legion Boosters, although not

officially recognized nationally by the American Legion, also play a vital role in the success of the Legion.

Legion meetings are held on the Monday following the first Thursday of each month, September through May, at 32 Dedham Street, Dover (508-785-9878). Visit [www.doverlegion.org](http://www.doverlegion.org) or follow on Facebook (Dover Legion Post 209).



Photos at top and right courtesy of the Legion.

**George Bernard Preston (1897–1918):** An orphan from Boston, Preston moved to Dover at age four to live with the Manns, a respected farming family. He attended Dover's Sanger School and enlisted in the Massachusetts National Guard the day after President Woodrow Wilson declared war on Germany in 1917. Preston belonged to the 102nd Infantry Division, the "Yankee Division," which deployed to France. At the Battle of Seicheprey, April 20, 1918, the Germans launched a massive surprise artillery barrage against the Allied lines, after which more than 3,000 German soldiers carrying flamethrowers stormed the town. The men of the 102nd regrouped and fought off the Germans in hand-to-hand combat, driving them back to their front line. Preston and 80 other young men died in the battle. Preston is buried at Dover's Highland Cemetery.