



Andover Village
Improvement Society
Andover's Land Trust
Founded 1894

Fall 2019
Vol. 126, No. 2

avis update

Addison Gallery Celebrates AVIS 125th

The Addison Gallery of American Art celebrates the 125th anniversary of AVIS with an exhibit "**A Wildness Distant from Ourselves**"

By Gordon Dearborn Wilkins, Robert M. Walker Associate Curator of American Art.

Henry David Thoreau's midcentury clarion call offers a concise distillation of a prevailing, paradoxical, European-American conception of the environment as other, a foil for the reason and civility of man, at times an adversary, at others an asset. From the Puritans' seventeenth century "errand into the wilderness" to the present, the dichotomy between man and nature has defined the European-American experience in the "New World." Focusing on the nineteenth century, an era that witnessed both the extreme and violent exploitation of the land and its peoples and the birth of a modern conservation movement, this exhibition will unfold chronologically and move from New England to the West. Paintings, works on paper, sculptures, photographs, and decorative arts by artists both familiar and unknown from the Addison's collection will enter into dialogue with a selection of Indigenous works of art from the Robert S. Peabody Institute of Archaeology and compelling natural history specimens generously lent by the Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University to bear witness to the complex histories and persistent impacts of the 19th-century European-American relationship with the natural world. Generous support for this exhibition has been provided by the Morris Tyler Fund.

The exhibition will run for 11 months from September 1, 2019 – July 31, 2020.

"It is in vain to dream of a wildness distant from ourselves. There is none such." – Henry David Thoreau, Journal IX, 1856



Top: He that by the plough would thrive—Himself must either hold or drive; artist unknown

Bottom Left: Covered Wagons in the Rockies; Alvan Fisher
Bottom Right: Great auk (Pinguinus impennis)



Spotting interesting birds on the May 19th West Parish Meadow/ Baker's Meadow Bird Walk led by Don Cooper. Photo by Mike Timko



Hikers plow through early tall grass on a June hike led by Jeff LaFountain. There has been a very strong collaboration with Jeff and the Andover Trails Committee, which is an important part of our 125th year. Jeff has been leading a hike many months this year but has moved out of town. Denise Boucher will now be leading hikes. Photo by John Hess

Man for All Seasons, David Dargie, AVIS Land Manager and Ranger

By Alix Driscoll

Dargie's roots run deep with AVIS and with the land.

Decades ago, when he was in his 20's, David Dargie inherited the job of Warden of the High Plain Road Reservation, now the Harold R. Rafton Reservation, from his dad, Phil Dargie, who had held that position in the 1960's and 1970's. Back then his dad proudly announced in the Andover Townsman January 7, 20: "It is neat for any father to have a son interested in the same thing he's interested in. That's a compliment as a parent."

Phil also believed: "the purpose is to get people to use the AVIS property...to let them know it's here for them to use," and Dargie does just that continually and with passion born of deep connections to the reservations.

Schooled in forestry by his dad, by his fourteenth year Dargie already handled a chainsaw with ease. In 1980, Claus Dengler, who was president 1965-1970, recommended him for the AVIS Land Manager job. "I am required to walk all the reservations and that is what I like to do. "It is common lore around Town that Dargie knows every inch of the 25 major AVIS reservations, and much more.

A Tripartite Responsibility: AVIS Land Manager, AVIS Ranger and Inspector for Andover

"As AVIS Land Manager I like meeting up with people who have the same passion for the land that I have, and I am introduced to specialists in different parts of the ecosystem, naturalists, arborists, herpetologists, birders, hunters and all these people are healthy people, and I learn from them."

Dargie is most satisfied when he gets a fine warden for a reservation and then he trains them on the basic rules on how to create a trail, especially the use of limb loppers: no touching of the brush that allows ticks to jump off, no snow loads on limbs, and brush cut back so as to not drip on the hiker after rainstorms.

AVIS Ranger

"Rangers are like Wardens of all reservations," shares Dargie, Head Ranger, with colleague rangers Dave Doub (emeritus), John Wragg, Dick Dillon and Ken Doran. Legendary is the service of

the Rangers to AVIS. They do whatever is needed to improve all the reservations by taking down dangerous trees, clearing invasives, building and repairing trails and enhancing places of great beauty for the enjoyment of all.

Inspector for the Town

Dargie, whose retirement became effective on September 17, 2018, after 36 years of service, was hired as a Conservation Agent for the last quarter of 1982 and as Conservation Inspector for the Town in 1983. The first Conservation Agent, Deena Hammond, recom-

mended him and the Engineering Department hired him because he "had one foot in conservation and one foot in construction." Wentworth Institute had honed his construction skills and his AVIS responsibilities had taught him reverence for the land. Dargie has managed both of these fulltime responsibilities with balance and grace.

Next Steps - Dargie has an Impressive To-Do List

Now that AVIS recently purchased 26.6 acres of former Franciscan land including the western parts of the Deer Jump Trail, most of the 1.6 miles of new trails have been planned, flagged by Dargie and cut in by volunteer groups. Under the direction of Buzz Stapczynski, the Boy Scouts have constructed seven of the 13 new boardwalks needed to traverse the trails along the steep Merrimack River embankment. Dargie relishes masterminding where the trails go, especially on the slopes and the rugged erosion-prone riverfront.

During 2018, AVIS received a 20-acre land donation from the Bonier Family in West Andover thanks to Susan Stott, and Dargie was able to have a trail planned, and later cut by the Merrimack College baseball team.

AVIS's fellow travelers know well that lovely vistas abound on the 1200 acres that the land trust protects for the delight of all. Many more visitors will learn of the beauties of the land this year, especially, as they trek through each reservation doing the AVIS 125 Challenge, and visit all 25. David Dargie's wise and caring hand has touched each reservation.

"As Land Manager, I like meeting up with people who have the same passion for the land that I have, and I am introduced to specialists in different parts of the ecosystem, naturalists, arborists, herpetologists, birders, hunters and all these people are healthy people, and I learn from them."



David Dargie Photo by John Hess

AVIS 125 Challenge

Hike 25 AVIS Reservations to Complete the Challenge
And Win an Official AVIS Challenge T-shirt

Help celebrate AVIS's 125th Anniversary by hiking 25 AVIS reservations in 2019. Get outside and see parts of Andover you never knew existed. The challenge runs January 1 to December 31, 2019. Hike the main loop of each reservation. Track your progress on a downloadable form at the AVIS website: www.avisandover.org,

look for AVIS 125. Reservation maps and parking information can be found there too.

When you are finished the hikes, mail the completed form to AVIS, P. O. Box 5097, Andover, MA 01810 or bring to an AVIS event. You will receive an official AVIS Challenge T-shirt at the end of the year!

Questions: members@avisandover.org.



Avis 125th Celebration Events

Aug. 20 / Tuesdays with AVIS/ led by David Dargie. Turtle Mound (at 3 Lakeside Circle)/ Nat Smith reservations Check at avisandover.org

Sept. 1 / "A Wildness. Distant from Ourselves", exhibition at Addison Gallery of American Art, in recognition of AVIS's 125th Anniversary, opening Sept. 1. Curated by Gordon Wilkins, running 11 months.

Sept. 3 / Tuesdays with AVIS/ led by David Dargie. Harold R. Rafton Res.-meet at High Plain Rd. compost site.

Summer - Fall, Sat.s/ AVIS at the Farmers Market, at Andover Center for History and Culture.

Second and fourth Wed.s/ Men's Hiking Group, Center at Punchard, led by Fred Snell and Don Schroeder

Sept. 7 / Andover Day, See the AVIS booth

Sept. 7 / Natural State is a juried art show organized by the Andover Center for History & Culture (ACHC) and supported by the Andover Village Improvement Society (AVIS) and Andover Arts and Culture Alliance (ACA).

The intent of Natural State is to encourage artworks inspired by AVIS' properties and trails and the many ways the community takes pleasure in them. In 2019 the AVIS is celebrating its 125th anniversary, the second oldest land trust in the country. Natural State is part of a year-long calendar of events celebrating AVIS' long commitment, "to acquiring land and preserving it in its natural state." Opening is September 7.

Sept. 20 / Trails and Sails Event, Poetry Hike, led by Andover's Poet Laureate, Linda Haltmaier, nature poetry, in West Parish and Baker's Meadow reservations, time TBA.

Nov. 21 / Hike in the Skug Res., an Essex County Greenbelt Assn. event, 9:30 a.m. Park at 319 Salem St., or at Wagon Wheel Road.



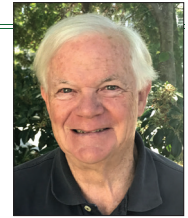
On July 11, 2019, many members of AVIS joined with Dick's children, Katie Bonier, Fran Bonier, Tom Bonier and their families including Carolyn Bonier, to celebrate the opening of the Richard J. Bonier Reservation with a festive picnic and a hike to enjoy this gift of 20.21 acres to AVIS. Photo By Mike Timko

AVIS New Members Since Fall 2018

- | | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Paul Bergeron | Kevin McCoy | Myra Jean Prella |
| Yinching Chen | Susan McLellan | Betty and John Provasoli |
| Molly Foley | Carol Matzke | Clair Radice |
| Denise Johnson | Beth Mazin | Millard Ring |
| Mary Kate Keys | Helena Minton | Santo J. Ruma |
| Pam Landry | Paul Mounter | Matthew Scully |
| Patrick Lawlor | Mary Elizabeth O'Brien | Michael A. Wartman |
| Paul Mackay | Bevolyn Oliver | Chris Watson |
| William N. Mantle | | |

President's Letter

By John P. Hess



We owe a great deal of gratitude to those who came before us: those who founded The Andover Village Improvement Society in 1894 to "beautify" and improve our Town; those who converted this nascent organization into a modern land trust; those who encouraged and assisted the Town to create an effective Conservation Commission; and those who continued to acquire land and protect it for future generations. I encourage all our readers to visit the Andover Center for History and Culture to view the excellent history exhibit that has been installed there. That exhibit pays homage to our predecessors and their many deeds to protect land in Andover.

I also encourage you to participate in as many of the AVIS 125 activities as you can during this, our 125th year. Please see the calendar on our website. There are many wonderful reasons to get outside and explore whether as a lone walker, on a family outing, or trying to complete the AVIS 125 Challenge to hike 25 reservations during the year. The reservations that are required for the 125 Challenge are on a check list that you can get from our website. Just write in the date you do each reservation and send the form to us when you are finished. All who do the 25 hikes will get a T-shirt; and the Challenge T-shirts are not available to the general public.

Going forward our current generation has the challenge of not only acquiring land as it becomes available but of protecting and preserving the over 1200 acres we already own. Threats of invasive species, herbicides & pesticides, changing river and stream beds that cause erosion, and other challenges mean that we need to invest in more aggressive stewardship. More and more we are going to have to expend resources to protect the land we have saved and that will take money, not to acquire but to remove invasive species. We will need to take other remedial and/or protective actions. We have hired an expert to help identify priority projects and are committed to the stewardship of the lands we manage.

To this end, we have created a campaign to support the AVIS Land Stewardship Fund. Our goal is to raise \$125,000 in this our 125th year. These financial resources will help us to grow the endowment for the protection of AVIS properties. Information about the campaign will be on our website soon.

Thank you for your support of AVIS and we encourage you to get outside and enjoy the wonderful places we have in Town.



Migration, 125 handmade ceramic containers created by Emily Trespas symbolizing birds and botanicals, rain gauges, markers of weather patterns and seasons. She is inspired by the ideas of absence and presence, and our place and the surrounding world. It is an installation from Art along the Trails.

Art Along the Trail, 12 Installations on AVIS Reservations During the Summer/Fall

By Morgan Von Prella Pecelli

Art Along the Trails is a celebration of 125 years of AVIS preserving wildlife habitats and water resources while providing free access to hills, woods and waterways for Andover residents and visitors. Art and nature bring beauty into our lives, inspire us with wonder and curiosity and spark our imaginations and creativity. By sharing our creativity with each other in the natural environment, we honor the gifts we receive from it. Many installations are on view until mid September.

Artist: Cassie Doyon, Title: Empty Nest

AVIS Trail: Burns Reservation: avisandover.org/burns
Empty Nest is a mosaic sculpture created by mixed media artist Cassie Doyon (cassiedoyondesigns.net). Cassie often uses a variety of materials, found objects, and colors in her work, incorporating spontaneity and serendipity into her pieces. Empty Nest invites visitors to observe her whimsical form and colors, while contemplating the artist's intent.

Artist: Lisa Hertel, Title: Plastic Pony

AVIS Trail: Harold R. Rafton Reservation: avisandover.org/rafton
Plastic Pony is a metal sculpture created by artist Lisa Hertel (cogitation.org). Lisa often incorporates multiple techniques and media in her ceramic, wire or watercolor works, using environmentally friendly methods whenever possible. Plastic Pony invites trail visitors, particularly kids, to consider the use of plastics and impact on the environment.

Artist: Heidi Jackson, Title: Recycled Matters: Magical Mushroom Soiree.

AVIS Trail: Deer Jump Reservation: avisandover.org/deer_jump
Recycled Matters: Magical Mushroom Soiree is a mixed-media sculpture created by artist Heidi Jackson (heidijackson.com). As an expressionistic painter/sculptor, Heidi often works in a variety of materials including paint, paper, clay, stone, wood, and reclaimed materials. Recycled Matters invites trail visitors to celebrate life's energy and the magic of our interactions with nature.

Artists: Sharon Lapham and Sue Millman, Title: Imitation/Invitation of Tree Bark

AVIS Trail: Vale Reservation: avisandover.org/vale
Imitation/Invitation of Tree Bark is a series of watercolors by artists Sharon Lapham and Sue Millman. Sharon has created paintings, videos, and sculptures using objects from river clean-ups. Sue is a painter and a fabric artist. As longtime members of the Shawsheen River Watershed Association, they've witnessed the effects of years of mistreatment the watershed has suffered. This project aims to illustrate trees' strength and endurance, managing to survive despite the vagaries of encroachment and waste-dumping.

Organization: The Lost Notebook, Project Title: Artist Walks (3)

AVIS Trail: Deer Jump Reservation: avisandover.org/deer_jump
Artist Walks (3) is a series of guided walks for self-identified artists of all disciplines. The walks are developed by Morgan von Prella Pecelli, who works at the intersection of anthropology, art, and sustainable development, thinking about how we create meaning in places where we live, work, learn, and play. Each walk explores a different way of moving along the trail and invites participants to share in a conversation about creative practice.

Organization: Memorial Hall Library, Title: All the World": A Storywalk

AVIS Trail: West Parish Meadow: avisandover.org/westparish
All the World": A Storywalk® is an installation project created by Andover's Memorial Hall Library staff (mhl.org). All the World, a picture book by Liz Garton Scanlon and Marla Frazee, shares a positive message that everything and everyone on this planet is important and connected. Designed specifically with families in mind, this project hopes to promote literacy, health, art appreciation, and a love of the outdoors by encouraging all of us to take a walk while enjoying a story along the way.

Artists: Emily O'Hara, Molly Foley, and Lillian Gendreau, Title: Interwoven

AVIS Trail: Purdon Reservation: avisandover.org/purdon
Interwoven is an interactive weaving project created by artists Emily O'Hara, Molly Foley, and Lillian Gendreau. Emily and Molly are self-taught weavers, Lillian is a photographer, and this will be their first collaboration. Interwoven inspires trail visitors to consider the natural world around them and their related feelings, observations, and thoughts. Participants are invited to respond to posted questions via [@interwoven_art](https://www.instagram.com/interwoven_art) on Instagram, [@interwoven_art](https://www.facebook.com/interwoven_art) in nature on Facebook, or onsite via letterbox. Each week these responses will then be woven into the project creating a weft thread and shared document of visitors' experiences on the trail.

Artist: Jennifer Schneidewent, Title: The Integration

AVIS Trail: Goldsmith Woodlands: avisandover.org/goldsmith
The Integration is a set of abstract figurative basswood carvings created by artist Jennifer Schneidewent (website: Gravity & Grace Studio). Jennifer's creative practice includes sculpting in wood and other media and crafting in sterling silver. Trail visitors who come upon The Integration at Scout Hollow will be impacted by how it beckons them to walk around it, taking in the tall, quiet grouping with a view of Foster's Pond. For print publications website: schnei7.wixsite.com/gravityngracestudio

Organization: SHED Children's Campus, Title: Hidden Village in the Trees

AVIS Trail: Shawsheen River Reservation: avisandover.org/shawsheenriver
Hidden Village in the Trees is a collaborative and durational installation project created by the students and teachers of SHED Children's Campus (shedchildrenscampus.org). At SHED Children's Campus, kids are encouraged to engage nature to learn & grow, express themselves with art and their bodies, connect to others, and find peace & joy. Each week, the

fairy village will grow and evolve, giving trail visitors a chance to return again and again to discover the project's ongoing transformation. The project's progress can also be followed at [facebook.com/shedkidsclub](https://www.facebook.com/shedkidsclub).

Organization: Silver Labyrinth Design, Title: Copper Milkweed.

AVIS Trail: West Parish Meadow: avisandover.org/westparish
Copper Milkweed is a metalwork sculpture created by artist Emily O'Hara (silverlabyrinthdesign.com). Emily is a metalsmith and fiber artist who creates jewelry and woven works incorporating metal into the designs. Trail visitors encountering Copper Milkweed are encouraged to consider the important role such plants play in the lifecycle of key pollinators including Monarch butterflies who need milkweed to lay their eggs.

Artist: Emily Trespas, Title: Migration

AVIS Trail: Stanley Reservation: avisandover.org/stanley.html
Migration is a series of 125 handmade ceramic containers created by Emily Trespas. The vessels symbolize birds and botanicals; they are also rain gauges, markers of weather patterns and seasons. The installation invites visitors to consider the passing of time and the movement of nature. Trespas's work is grounded in a practice of collecting, re-purposing, and re-interpreting. She is inspired by ideas of absence & presence, and our place and the surrounding world.



*Empty Nest by Cassie Doyon;
Photo by Emily Trespas*

Richard Barry: “Maximizing the Ecological Function of the Site”

By Alix Driscoll

At Burns Reservation, in Ballardvale, where he serves as a warden, Richard Barry has “done the experiment,” as scientists say, creating a sustainable AVIS site, without invasives and with all native species in just the right spots. For three years since a group of towering invasive Norway maples were removed by a tree company, he has weeded out multitudes of invasive plants from the entire five-acre reservation, planting just the right native tree and shrub seedling where they are most needed.

In the area where the maples were removed, he planted white oak, sassafras, and purple-flowering raspberries. Barry has grown much of what he has planted on the Burns, from seed at his home where he is growing more than 200 different species.

This year, at the direction of AVIS Trustee Amy Janovsky, Barry has mapped eight reservations, Burns, Greene, Purdon, Sakowich, West Parish Meadow, Lupine, Keck and Sherman, and prepared management plans for them to guide AVIS Trustees on sustainable land management programs going forward. In this, the 125th year, AVIS is strongly focusing on “stewardship,” that is, thoughtful management of the reservations.

Background

Barry came to his career creating ecosystems in 2017 after being informed that as a supervisor in charge of agricultural inspection in Boston, he was additionally going to be supervising immigration and customs functions at Logan Airport. He decided to resign from his 16-year-long career with the Federal Government and created his own business.

His studies in forest ecology at the University of Maine, Orono with particular expertise in native plants honed at the National Arboretum, Washington, D.C. guided him. In spring 2017 NativeScapesMA was born, the name now changing to Gaia Nativescapes with his upcoming move west.

Both his business and his passion, Gaia Nativescapes, means “landscaping through sustainability on another level,” says Barry. “I know my purpose is to maximize the ecological function of a site.

I think of the earth as a living creature.”

Aldo Leopold, author of “A Sand County Almanac: And Sketches Here and There” had become his muse. “Everyone is a land manager. After cleaning up the site of invasives then think about what really belongs there, always native plants but placed appropriately.”

Spend some time with Barry and one will absorb his close relationship to and reverence for the land, and for AVIS reservations, in particular. He explains many of AVIS reservations were once farms decades ago, with disturbed soils allowing invasives to invade. Yet, Deer Jump was left forested on the immediate banks of the Merrimack River and has outstanding diversity. Purdon Reservation, the most southerly portion with ground cover of huckleberry, low-bush blueberry and wintergreen is clearly land that has never been plowed, and consequently remains very healthy.

Hope Abounds

Barry believes that “people are becoming more aware of what they do to the land and they are starting to care. I can help them understand their relationship with this planet.”

Leaving New England

For his wife, who grew up in California, it will be going home for her this summer, to Yorba Linda, Orange County, with many relatives there to embrace his family. Barry believes there is much potential there for job growth for his ecologically-based profession. To prepare for his move, he has been digging into information for two years about the climates, soils and diversity of the complex Southern CA regions.

With primarily hand tools, Richard Barry plans to build and design native gardens and restore environments as he has done at the Burns Reservation; he believes there will be many like-minded landowners who will care and support him. He will choose from more than 7,000 native California plants, with just the right one for each spot, plenty to go around.



Photo by by Floyd Greenwood.

West Parish / Baker’s Meadow Bird Walk

By Don Cooper

On May 19th, thirteen hikers birded the West Parish and Baker’s Meadow reservations to celebrate AVIS’s 125th anniversary. Springtime is a marvelous season to observe familiar birds returning to Massachusetts to nest and breed, and also to see birds stopping in to refuel on their migration to the far north. AVIS reservations provide the open space these birds need to thrive and serve as a vital resource to maintain the health and diversity of our avian population. Observing and noting this important function is a more than fitting way to note the importance of the mission of AVIS.

The hike was very successful, covering more than 2 miles at a good walking pace and identifying thirty-one species of birds, which included Massachusetts favorites such as Baltimore Orioles and great blue herons and also more exotic species, like wood warblers, including an American Redstart. Led by Donna Cooper and Don Cooper (past president Mike Timko filled in for Donna due

to a conflict), the group included veteran birders and several just getting started. Evelyn Retelle, for whom the Baker’s Meadow trail is named, along with her late husband, Al, ably assisted on the walk and bird identification.

The walk illustrated the value to health and spirit of being outdoors in open space and the attraction of birding as an interest. Also of note is the input that birders are having on documenting the effects of climate change and habitat alteration on bird populations. Southern bird species seen on this hike, like red-bellied woodpeckers, are moving north as the climate warms. Species dependent on tall grass meadow habitat, like bobolinks and eastern meadowlarks are declining as that habitat disappears in Eastern Massachusetts.

So, take advantage of AVIS reservations like West Parish and Baker’s Meadow to get outside and appreciate the rich experience of the natural environment, including the bird and animal life

AVIS Membership

Name: _____

Address: _____

Town, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Dues: _____ \$30 Individual _____ \$100 Sustaining
 _____ \$50 Family _____ \$15 Student & Senior

You can join or renew online at www.avisandover.org/join.html or make check payable to "AVIS" and mail to :

AVIS
 PO Box 5097
 Andover, MA 01810.

For information about planned giving or stock donations contact info@avisandover.org. Contributions and dues are tax deductible to the extent permitted by federal regulations. Thank you!

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For additional AVIS events see
AVISANDOVER.ORG

To check for other hikes visit
ANDOVERTRAILS.ORG

For AMC walks see
AMCBOSTON.ORG

The AVIS Update is a biannual publication of The Andover Village Improvement Society. The mission of AVIS is to acquire and preserve Andover land in its natural state. More than 1,200 acres of land are managed by AVIS and are open to all for passive recreation.

Please be sure to check our website, avisandover.org, for hikes and other activities during the fall and winter.

CALENDAR

A Wildness Distant from Ourselves

Art Exhibition at the Addison Gallery of American Art, Phillips Academy, 180 Main St. , Andover, to celebrate AVIS's 125 Anniversary

With works from the collection. Curated by Gordon Wilkins. Exhibit to run from Sept. 1 to July 31, 2020.

Andover Day

Sat. Sept. 7. Look for the AVIS Booth

Natural State, Juried Art Show

Sat. Sept. 7, opening at Andover Center for History and Culture through November

AVIS 125 Challenge

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And Win an Official AVIS Challenge T-shirt

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Hikes

Sept. 3 / Tuesdays with AVIS/ led by David Dargie. Harold R. Rafton Res.-meet at High Plain Rd. compost site.

Sept. 15 / Hike at Goldsmith Woodlands, 1-4, led by Denise Boucher. Meet at 491 Main St.

Men's Hiking Group at the Center at Punchard, second and fourth Wed.s

Sept. 22 / Trails and Sails Poetry Hike, led by Andover's Poet Laureate, Linda Haltmaier, West Parish Meadow and Baker's Meadow;

Oct. 13 / Hike in the Harold Rafton Res., 1-4, led by Denise Boucher. Park on High Plain Road or 283 High Plain Rd.

Nov. 10 / Hike in the Keck Res., 1-4 p.m., Led by Denise Boucher. Park at the Keck lot at 28 Gould Rd.

Nov. 21 / Essex County Greenbelt hike, 9:30 a.m. in Skug Res.; park at 319 Salem St.

Dec. 8 / Hike in the Taft Res., 1-3 p.m., led by Denise Boucher. Park at Sagamore Drive intersection with Wildwood.

In addition to special topic hikes see 125 Events and avisandover.org