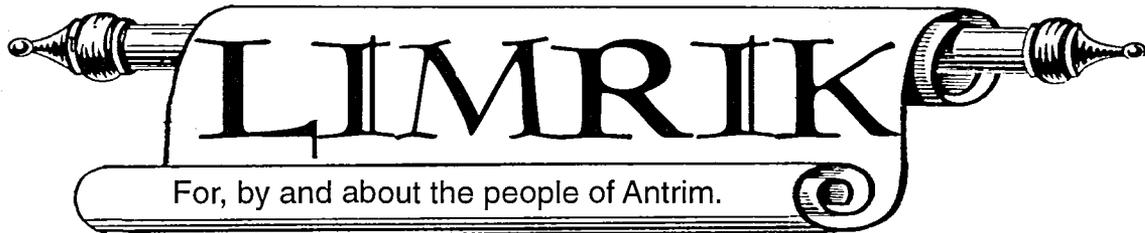




VOL. 10 . NUMBER 4
SEPTEMBER 2001

THE ANTRIM



For, by and about the people of Antrim.

LIBRARY EXPANSION

By Len Pagano, Library Trustee

The Tuttle Library building committee has been working with Peter Tennant, AIA, on developing a design for expansion of the library. After reviewing current and future space needs, the selected design is for a two-level addition—first floor and lower level. The first floor will house a new children's area, enlarged staff work space and circulation desk, and a new side entrance. The lower level will house the general collection in stacks. The existing library will remain as a reference area with audio-visual and periodicals section and will be renovated to bring it to code. Reinforcement of the floor load capacity, a second means of egress (stairs), and an additional bathroom will bring the use of the second floor up to code for use by the Historical Society and for Library programs.

↳ — continued on page 13

TWO CRASH LANDINGS

This issue's interview with Russ Russell (Lester "Russ" Russell—World War II Combat Veteran) reveals that in 1944 his B17 heavy bomber was shot down over Germany and crash landed on a hillside leaving him to hide out in deep snow for two days before being captured and imprisoned.

Last month right here in Antrim there was a crash landing—on top of a very tall tree. Dave Feathers had taken off from Deering in his ultra light plane and headed for Keene but got only as far as the Platt farm in East Antrim. There the engine conked out and his attempted glide into a field fell short. He was in the tree three hours before being rescued, uninjured, by a crane. An Antrim poet (Carole Webber) observed:

"Feathers wafted in the breeze
and landed in the trees." ♣

TOWN HALL OPEN HOUSE

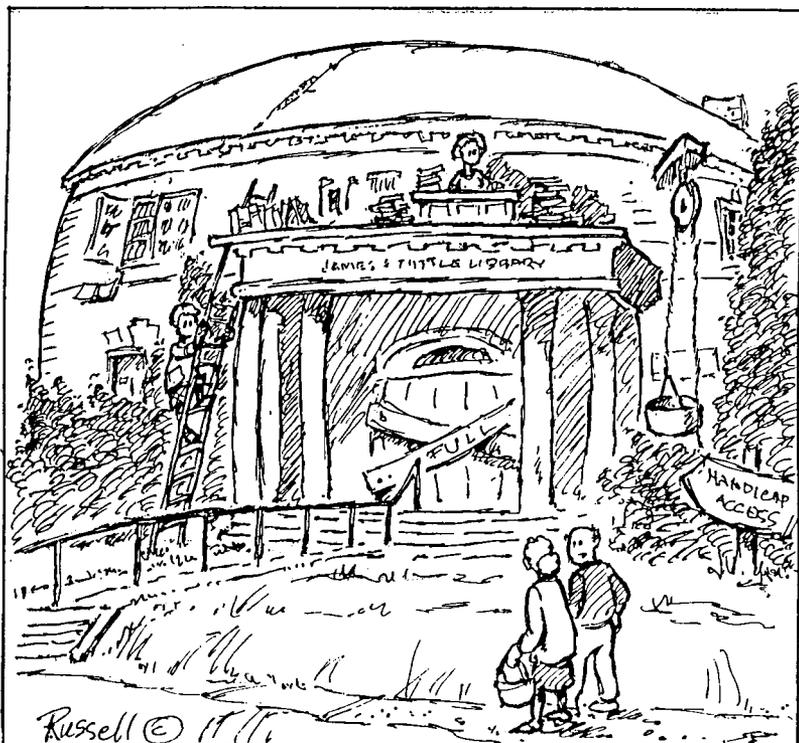
SAT SEPT 15
9 AM - 12 NOON

An open house will serve to celebrate completion of Town Hall's extensive renovation, on Saturday September 15, from 9 AM to 12 NOON. The public is invited to tour the new facilities, enjoy refreshments and—at 11 AM—witness formal presentation of keys to the Selectmen by the Building Committee. Bill Nichols, the committee' chairman, will serve as M.C.

Building committee members are David Boulé, Bruce Cuddihy, Tom Davis, Bob Edwards, Nina Harding, and Bill Nichols with selectmen Eric Tenney and Phil Dwight ex-officio. Bruce Cuddihy was the committee's on-site representative and did a much admired job of it. The process was extraordinarily complicated, requiring firm oversight which Bruce provided. He was on-site virtually every single day.

Amongst the things accomplished were foundation repairs, and installation of: 1st floor air conditioning, new wiring, new boiler, new doors, new bathrooms, a lift, a reinforced balcony, sprinkler system, fire alarm system and new fire escape (and many other items required by the Fire Marshal), an improved layout of office spaces—and new paint and floor finish throughout. Bruce Cuddihy says that the process has yielded "a huge visual difference" with some features, such as the new Little Town Hall, "fabulous".

Committee member Nina Harding says "We want to make a party of this open house. Come join us!" ♣



"The Librarian seems to be having a SPACE problem."

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ADVERTISING FEES

Full Page	\$125 per issue
Half Page (Back Page)	\$75 per issue
Half Page (Inside page)	\$65 per issue
Business Card size ad	\$30 per issue or \$100 for 4 issues

Advertising copy is due by the 10th of the month prior to LIMRIK publication—May 10, August 10, November 10 or February 10. Decisions about acceptable content for ads will be made by the Managing Editor and the Business Manager.

NEWS DEADLINE

Contributors to the LIMRIK should provide copy to reporters by the 8th of the month preceding each issue. Issues are published in December, March, June, and September. For the next issue, copy should be delivered by November 8, either to a staff member or to the Tuttle Library.

TAPS

Rush Spedden, a long-time summer resident at Gregg Lake, writes us: "After many years of hearing "Taps" sound across Gregg Lake from the Boy Scout Camp, I found this story very interesting. I offer no guarantee as to its authenticity."

—Editor

We have all heard the haunting melody of "Taps". It's the song that gives us that lump in our throats and usually tears in our eyes. But do you know the story behind the song? If not, I think you will be pleased to find out about its humble beginnings.

Reportedly, it all began in 1862 during the Civil War, when Union Army Captain Robert Ellicombe was with his men near Harrison's Landing, Virginia. The Confederate Army was on the other side of the narrow strip of land. During the night, Captain Ellicombe heard the moans of a soldier who was severely wounded on the field. Not knowing if it was a Union or Confederate soldier, the Captain decided to risk his life and bring the stricken man back for medical attention. Crawling on his stomach through the gunfire, the Captain reached the stricken soldier and began pulling him toward the encampment.

When the Captain finally reached his own lines, he discovered it was actually a Confederate soldier, but the soldier was dead. The Captain lit a lantern and suddenly caught his breath and went numb with shock. In the dim light he saw the face of the soldier. It was his own son.

The boy had been studying music in the South when the war broke out. Without telling his father, the boy enlisted in the Confederate Army.

The following morning, heartbroken, the father asked permission to give his son a full military burial despite his enemy status. His request was only partially granted. The Captain had asked if he could have a group of Army band members play a funeral dirge for his son at the funeral. The request was denied since the soldier was a Confederate. But, out of respect for the father, they did say they could give him one musician. The Captain chose a bugler. He asked the bugler to play a series of musical notes he had found on a piece of paper in the pocket of the dead youth's uniform. This wish was granted. The haunting melody, which we now know as "Taps" used at military funerals, was born. ♣

CARTOON

The cartoon on page 1 is the creation of Russ Russell, Art Editor of the LIMRIK. Russ gave the original to the Tuttle Library!



ANTRIM POLICE **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**



By Sgt. Brent Hautanen

In Antrim, domestic violence is a very real problem. Last year the Antrim Police Department dealt with 53 domestic violence related incidents. Currently the department has ten active Protective Orders on file and are holding thirty firearms as required by these order.

Ask any police officer what is the most dangerous call they have to respond to and most, if not all, will tell you "the domestic violence call". Police respond to these calls knowing that there is a likelihood that they could be injured or even killed. The officer has to introduce himself into an emotionally-charged situation and attempt to diffuse it. This task is made more difficult because at least one of the participants is usually under the influence of alcohol or drugs. The officer has to listen to both sides and determine what is the most appropriate course of action. This can range from counseling to arrest, if a crime has been committed.

Incidents of domestic violence are on the rise. Some experts feel that this is an indication that society is becoming more violent. Others feel that the problem is not increasing, it's just being reported more often because of increased public awareness and better reporting methods. Due to the rise, Federal and State legislatures have revised old laws and enacted new ones in an attempt to protect victims. In New Hampshire, domestic violence is defined as abuse occurring between family or household members as well as between current or former intimate partners. New Hampshire's laws on domestic violence are contained in Chapter 173-B of the criminal code. This chapter allows for courts to issue Domestic Violence Protective Orders (aka: restraining orders) which are aimed at victim protection by eliminating contact by the abuser. Protective orders can also set financial obligations between the parties, child visitation, and mandate the seizure of any firearms or ammunition that the abuser owns. If the abuser violates any section of these orders, their immediate arrest is mandated and they will be held without bail at a county jail until the next available court date.

If you, or anyone you know, are the victim of domestic violence please contact the Antrim Police Department at 588-6613. You can also contact Woman's Crisis Services at 352-3782 for advice and referrals. ♣

FROM THE SELECTMEN **TOWN HALL**

As of August 1st, there would appear to be only a few weeks left before all the work at Town Hall is complete. The final major item is the paving of the parking area and driveways and the construction of the sidewalk on the south side.

Inside, the building is all done except the sanding and finishing of the wood floors upstairs which is scheduled to be done by August 13. The offices downstairs are completed, and both the Town Office and Police Department are back in their former locations. All that is left is to do some putting away of Town Records and to decorate.

As noted in the article on page 1, an open house is scheduled for September 15. At that time we should all be on hand to thank the members of the building committee who have worked many hours bringing this project to completion. Those of you who have already visited the building have seen the transformation. It is certainly a place of which the town can be proud.

PROPERTY REVALUATION

In other news, the property revaluation process has begun with initial visits to properties on or around Gregg and Franklin Pierce Lakes. The schedule calls for all property visits to be completed by the end of this year. It should be noted that the assessors' initial visit will be done without appointments. If no one is home, they will leave a card indicating that they will contact you to set up a mutually convenient time to view your house.

During the first half of 2002 they will complete the sales analysis and the data entry process so that by June the value of all properties will be set. A list of all values will be available and this list will be posted in several places in town. Also, property owners will receive a letter giving them the value of their own property. If you feel the value set on your property is incorrect, you will have an opportunity to meet with the assessors next July or August. If you have any questions about this, please call Town Hall.

NEW BENCHES

Finally, we would point out (though we can't believe they could be overlooked) the new benches along Main Street. See the article on page 8. ♣

**FOOD
VENDORS**

3rd Annual Celtic Celebration

Sunday SEPTEMBER 30 10 AM — 4 PM

**GIFTS
VENDORS**

PERFORMANCES

Robbie O'Connell Brendan Carey Block
Bodaich Ceol Eire
Jerry O'Sullivan (on Uilleann pipes)
The Catamount Pipe Band

WORKSHOPS

Contra Dance Tin Whistle
Step Dancing Antrim History
Genealogy Celtic Knot Art
Spinning & Weaving demonstration

ADVANCE TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE TUTTLE LIBRARY
CALL 588-6786 FOR MORE INFORMATION

LESTER "RUSS" RUSSELL

WORLD WAR II COMBAT VETERAN

This interview is another in the Antrim Historical Society's Oral History Project. It was conducted, transcribed, and edited by Lyman Gilmore. Future interviews of Antrim men and women who served in the armed forces are planned.

Russ Russell served in four European campaigns and flew thirty two combat missions for which he received seven decorations. He was shot down and captured by the Germans and spent six months in prisoner of war camps.

Russ and his wife Giffin moved to Antrim in 1981 from northern Virginia. Both are accomplished professional artists; they painted the Fall and Winter paintings that grace the south and west sides of the Town Hall tower. Russ, seventy-eight, began painting in 1965. He studied at the Corcoran Gallery in Washington, DC, and with Disney animation artists in California. The interview took place August 6, 2001, in their West Street home before a huge picture window that looks out over a beautiful flower garden and pond.

I was born April 8, 1923, in Waterbury Center in northern Vermont, Ben and Jerry land.

In 1942 a group of us who had just graduated from high school decided to enlist in the Air Force, the Army Air Corps at that time. December 7th we were taken to Fort Devons in Massachusetts and inducted. There we learned how to get up somewhere before dawn to look for cigarette butts in the snowdrifts and proceed to the mess hall to do KP. Basic training was in Miami Beach, and that was an adventure! I had hardly been out of the state of Vermont, hadn't seen palm trees or the ocean. I was fascinated by the fact that orange trees were growing all over the place. It was pretty exciting until Christmastime. At that time I preferred to be home. But I was pretty caught up with what was going on. They kept us very, very busy to the point where we were too tired to think or do much of anything else. We'd march

out to the golf course, drill, and march back to the small hotel on the beach. It was hugely strange. I was down there a few months ago and there's no sign of the Miami Beach that I remember.

PHOTOGRAPHY

From Miami I went to photo school in Denver, Colorado. Photography was my major interest at that time, and I strove to go to photo school although they wanted to send me to weather school. I should have gone there because those guys went to Harvard and wound up a lot further upscale than I did. But Denver was good, and I went through, let's see, one, two, three schools there and one in Colorado Springs. I wound up as an aerial photographer.

After that, it was suggested to me that since I was going to be flying in combat zones, I should go to aerial gunnery school as well. This was the gimmick to get me to volunteer to fly any which place they needed me. But actually, that was exactly what I wanted. Charles Lindbergh was my big hero from the time he flew the ocean in '27, wasn't it? So off to gunnery school I went, and without my knowing it, was heading for trouble.

AERIAL GUNNERY

Aerial gunnery school was in Fort Meyer, Florida, out in a swamp. The water there was terrible. We drank out of a Lister Bag which was a big canvas sack they treated with something that smells like Lysol and tasted like it. There were snakes galore, very poisonous ones, coral snakes, moccasins, rattlesnakes.

The first thing they do is send you out on what they call a "splash mission." That consisted of flying out in a two place trainer, an AT6, and then firing about sixty rounds from a thirty caliber machine gun into the Gulf of Mexico. The rest of the time was spent in weapons training with everything from 12 gauge shotguns to 75 millimeter cannons. The skeet shooting was a lot of fun.

There's a story I probably shouldn't tell. Ok, splash mission. When we fired

it was from an open cockpit in the AT6, and there was no inter cockpit communication. The empty shells from machinegun were supposed to go down this tin chute and into a canvas sack. There was this one gunner a class or two ahead of mine who went out, and for some reason the sack and the chute weren't connected so empty cartridge shells were rattling around all over the place. At one point the pilot in the front cockpit turned around and yelled back, "Use the chute and save your brass," and the kid jumped out of the airplane and was floating down to the Gulf of Mexico! A PT boat picked him up, of course, and when they brought him back the Commander asked him what he thought he was doing. He said, "I was just doing what the pilot told me to, use my chute and save my ass." That's a true story; I had a newspaper to back it up.

After gunnery school I went to Oklahoma City, just another staging point where nothing much happened. I have an idea that they had these tens of thousands of men and women sort of milling around in the service, and nobody quite knew what to do with all of them. So they kept shifting them around until some sort of a shape occurred that would look like it would workput this piece here and that piece there.

From there I went back down to Florida, to Tampa, to an old fairground. By then I had made Buck Sergeant, three stripes, which was pretty good for those days. But that was just another staging place before we were assigned to our units to go over seas in the spring of 1944 before the Normandy invasion.

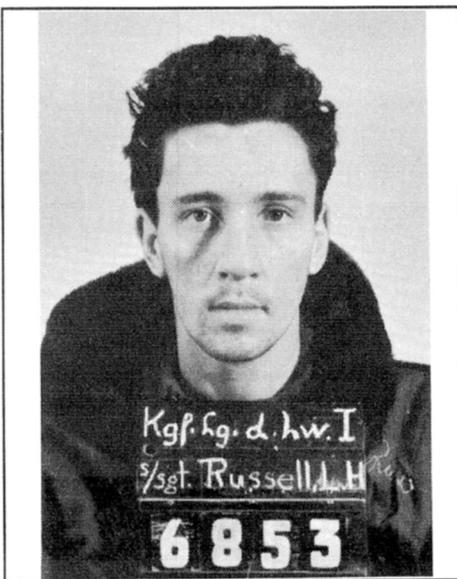
When we headed overseas, the weather trapped us in Newfoundland for about a month where we heard about the invasion, and then we flew to Wales. It was about that time they discovered that I was a terrible aircraft engineer. I didn't know how to do anything. (*Chuckle.*) They really didn't know what to do with me, an aerial photographer. So they decided to make me "Assistant Armorer" which was the tail gunner. I said, "Hey, I'm an aerial photographer," so they

gave me a camera and told me to take pictures. I never took one.

Finally I was assigned to a unit, the 384th Bomb Squadron in the 1st Division based in the south of England. My first missions were in B17 heavy bombers over St. Lô, France, just after the invasion. We were in and out of there, in on bomb runs, and strafing the German positions on the way back. You ask what I did on those runs, well the waist gunner used to say that he'd look back toward the tail and I'd have my helmet pulled down to my knees. I was in a turret in the tail, like an angled and square windshield, and the two 50 caliber machine guns were mounted below in these two slots. The mount swiveled and I could raise or lower the guns manually in their slots. We wouldn't charge the guns—that is crank the ammunition belts into the guns until we came into combat. I was facing backward and shooting down at what we passed, usually a convoy of trucks and tanks.

CRASH LANDINGS

We'd fly missions at least on a daily basis, weather permitting, and sometimes weather not permitting. Our plane was hit often, it was riddled. We didn't fly the same one plane all the time; we'd fly the plane that was assigned to us. We crash landed twice, just making it back



Prisoner of war Russell with black eye from beating, photographed by his captors.

to the coast of England and an RAF base. Crash landing was a noisy experience. You'd think it was frightening

Toward the end of the war the Germans developed a new technique; they would mass their fighter planes and come in in waves of fifteen or twenty, one wave after another and rather than attack an individual ship they'd attack the group of formations. In a large raid we'd have many squadrons of twelve planes each, and the Germans would go to the rear and make a run, a hit and run. I'd watch them come I think all the way up to the squadron behind mine before they'd break off.

A B17 put up a hell of a field of fire. There were guns in the front, from the side there were two waist gunners, the ball-turret gunner under the belly, and the top turret gunner, and to the rear there was the tail gunner and, again, the ball turret that could swivel 360 degrees. The ball turret dropped down once we were in flight, and it was retracted about half way up into the plane. The gunner would crawl into the turret and crank it down and there he stayed. He was in bad shape if we crash landed and we couldn't get the turret back up again.

A PARTICULAR MISSION

I'd like to describe a particular mission. I don't remember the date of it, but it was probably the greatest air battle of all time. We put up I think it was twelve hundred bombers for a massive attack on the industrial center of Germany in the Leipzig area. We had seven or eight hundred fighters escorting us, and I have no idea how many planes the Germans put up. It was a wonderfully clear day. It was our seventh trip to the same location so they were ready for us. We were high squadron, and I was lead observer in the lead plane. Very few people had a better view of what was going on than the tail gunner in the lead plane. As far as you could see in any direction, which was a long way at thirty thousand feet on a very, very clear day, there were airplanes, rocket trails from the Germans shooting up rockets, there were anti-aircraft bursts. The eighty eights were black

and every so often they'd fire up a colored burst from a one-fifty-five, and the colored bursts were signals for their own fighters that the ground would cease firing in that area for a moment to let their fighters get in. I never did any firing that day because they never got to my particular squadron. But it was awesome just to sit there and watch it.

We were on a bomb run and we couldn't take evasive action; once you lock into a bomb run there's no deviation allowed until the bombs are dropped. And of course, the Germans are very, very efficient with anti-aircraft as well as everything else, so things got pretty hairy at that particular time. I don't know how many of our planes were lost, but I saw a lot go down. And I saw a lot of parachutes which was bad news because you couldn't survive at that altitude, no oxygen. You were supposed to go into free fall; you'd lose consciousness but they told us that we'd recover somewhere it was low enough to breathe. As far as I know, nobody ever refuted that. (*Chuckle*) I never jumped out of an airplane. They tested the parachutes for my squadron, and pretty near seven out of ten worked. (*Chuckle*)

SHOT DOWN

We were shot down November 30th 1944. I had been in combat only six months. At that time I flew, let's see, that was my thirty-second mission, and I had only three to go. I don't know exactly where in Germany we were shot down. I think somewhere near Geissen. Two engines were out and we were burning. We were given instructions to bail out but we took a vote and decided to stay with the plane. At that point we trusted the airplane more than the parachutes. We also trusted the pilot to get us in. The B17 was a very forgiving ship; it had a gliding power that was terrific. It was like a bad dream, but nobody panicked.

So, when we knew we would crash, we had work to do. We had to crank the ball turret up and let the gunner out, and then unhitch the ball turret and drop it. We had to get rid of as much ammunition as we could. The bombardier had

— continued next page

to destroy the bomb sights, and when we were finally going in, then we took crash positions in the radio room. I was the largest of the enlisted men so I sat down next to the bulkhead and, toboggan style, the others sat in front of me so we wouldn't be rattling around.

I don't recall feeling the impact, just a tremendous amount of noise for a long, long time, it seemed like forever as the plane was getting ripped up on an open hillside. The pilots did a beautiful job of it. As far as I know, no one was really hurt, just shook up some.

"SHOOT THEM!"

The pilot, the co-pilot, the engineer, the ball turret gunner, and navigator left as a group; by the time I got out of the airplane I just caught a glimpse of them disappearing into the woods. They surrendered themselves to a group of civilians and they were all shot. After the war a search was made to find what happened to them. Four German civilians who had participated were caught. They said that they had called up some authority asking what to do with these men and the orders were, "Shoot them!"

The radio man and the bombardier took off by themselves. I was with the two waist gunners and we evaded the Germans for two days. We were trying to break into a small barn to dry out. There was deep snow in the woods and we'd been two days in there and needed a rest. But unfortunately for us this civilian with a rifle showed up. We didn't carry any arms purposely because they figure they'd only make more trouble for us. We were marched to this one house and the whole village came to look at us. They were quite friendly. They brought in an elderly woman who had lived in Baltimore who could communicate with us. We gave our emergency candy rations to the kids.

We didn't trust the civilians so we insisted on soldiers, the Wehrmach. Eventually one did show up, put us in wrist chains linked to each other, and marched us to an airbase near what I think was Geissen. As we were marched through the village in the dark this one woman

sort of ran in front of us and gave each one of us this bread and butter she had prepared to feed us. It was a very helpful gesture.

BOMBED BY THE RAF

The second or third night we were in Geissen it was bombed out by the RAF. So I learned what it was like to be on the other end of a bombing raid. The town was flattened; you couldn't tell where the street ended and the houses began. They bombed the base too. I didn't talk about it with the others, but I heard the train of bombs coming like a locomotive. And one came very close to the walls themselves. The Germans had taken cover, but we were still locked up in cells. The inside of the building seemed to expand with the explosions and I dove under the cot and waited for the last bomb to fall, but it never came.

BEATEN UP

Those bombs were a mighty motivation. We decided to try to get out of the building. Unfortunately we had to destroy some Reich property to get from one place to another, and we knocked down the doors to our cells, At that point we were beaten up pretty thoroughly by the guards, and I got a nasty black eye.

The next day we were marched through the streets by policemen and the Germans kept inquiring whether we were English or not, and the policemen informed them that we were not, we were "Amerikaners," which probably saved our lives. We were marched some distance to a train station; the trains couldn't get in there. Then we were dispatched to Frankfort which was the German interrogation center. Not much happened as far as I was concerned because tail gunners weren't expected to know a great deal. The interrogator tried to ingratiate himself with me to see if I might be worth while, but I was forewarned. I figured correctly that they knew more about my base than I did. I was informed they could shoot me if they wished to, and I told them I was already aware of that.

Now, we were marched to one room to be searched, and I was still carrying invasion gear and the commando dagger I was carrying in my boot. I thought

I'd save them some trouble, so I took off my heavy fur lined flier's jacket. I put all my stuff in the pocket of the jacket, and as we were being led into the interrogation room, on the spur of the moment, I handed the jacket to the German guard standing outside, and he took it. I went inside and got searched and came out and he was still standing there holding it. I said "Thanks," and took it back and carried it all the way to the prison camp.

PRISON CAMP

The prison camp was up on the Baltic Sea, a flying officers' camp. As prison camps go, it was probably the country club camp. We were picked out and sent up there to serve as—what do they call them?—to the officers. In European armies the officer would always have a servant or a flunky. My radio man read the notice somewhere and thought it was a great idea, so he signed the two of us up. So that's where I wound up.

You ask how long I was there. Let's see, Christmas day we were on a train and we almost got wiped out there by our own bombers. The Germans had put us in the center of the marshalling area, and I guess the train was marked. We saw the bombers coming in low with bomb bays open, and all of a sudden a fighter came buzzing overhead and the bomb bays closed and the bombers turned away and they went somewhere else. Christmas day we celebrated with the guards. They went out and brought back pails of beer. Soldiers pretty much understand each other. It was the civilians that were scary.

END OF THE WAR

I was in this Baltic prison camp from sometime in January 1945 until May. We were the last ones out of there. The Germans had left before the Russians arrived. The Russians wouldn't permit our planes to come in to evacuate us. They wanted to take us up into Russia, but there were twelve thousand of us. So eventually the Allies were allowed to send trucks in to take us out. That was the end of the war for me.

— continued on page 14

TOWN HISTORY REVISITED

WOLVES!

By Isabel Nichols

Time: March, 1785

Place: North Branch, Antrim

Dimond Warren was being “sent to Coventry,” wherever that might be. He only knew that it meant no one was allowed to speak to him for a week. His father was furious: “Ten years old and you can’t lock up the sheep properly! A five-year-old would have used more sense. The wolves sneak up to the barn every night just waiting for someone to make a foolish mistake like that. And now we’ve lost the sheep.” Well it was only five, not the whole flock. “You’ll pay for this, my lad—you’re being sent to Coventry!”

Probably the neighbors would ignore Dimond, too, and his father would tell about it all the way from the North Branch over Meeting House Hill, down to South Village. And by the time Constable Warren got to James Aiken’s place the toll would be twenty dead sheep and as many wolves in the pack. With any kind of audience the Constable had trouble sticking to the facts.

But Dimond’s mother had made him feel truly sorry for being so careless. She didn’t yell, she just cried because her two favorite ewes were close to lambing and she was sure they would both have had twins. He’d have to make it up to her somehow.

It was Town Meeting day, and it dawned as nice as you please, with a touch of spring in the air. Perhaps the long miserable winter was coming to an end, and the fearsome wolves would be able to find wild game and leave the farmers’ sheep alone. Maybe. Anyway, there hadn’t been any storms for a week and the snow was packed down enough for Constable Warren to ride the bay horse to the meeting at John Duncan’s leaving fourteen-year-old Moses to work at the Warren sawmill.

This meant that Dimond had twice the number of farm chores to do. Well that was all right since there was no one to talk to; even sister Polly, doing the morning

milking, never opened her mouth to him.

The silent treatment was getting him down. As he went about his work in the barn every turn of thought brought him back to wolves. They’d done a lot of damage to the farms in the west and north parts of town throughout the winter; Dimond recalled how a small pack of them had attacked Mr. Curtis’s cattle, over on Windsor Mountain. But that time the oxen had got the better of the wolves, coming away with bloodied horns but no hurt to themselves.

The howling would start from a distance every afternoon as the sun began to set, and get closer and louder and continue most of the night. One night Dimond’s family hardly slept at all because of wolves scratching at the door. Then as day began to dawn they’d slink away into the woods. Nobody at the Branch dared to venture out after dark, and they made sure all livestock were safely penned up. Well, most people did.

Dimond was glad this Coventry business didn’t put any restrictions on food. There was some cornbread left over from dinner since his father was gone for the day, so Dimond made sure it didn’t go to waste and took it back out to the barn with him. As he left the house he heard Polly say,

“Marm, can I take my knitting over to the Stuart’s this afternoon? I haven’t seen Molly since before the last storm, and it’s such a nice day.”

“A weather-breeder, I’ll be thinking,” answered her mother. “’Twouldn’t surprise me if another storm was brewing up. Just make sure you come home in daylight, before the wolves start to howl.”

Polly swept right by Dimond without a glance as she left the house. “Maybe I’m invisible,” he thought, and he watched her light-footing her way along the snow packed path to their neighbor’s house beyond the bridge.

He spent the afternoon winnowing seed for spring planting until it was time for the evening chores. When he left the barn he found that it had been snowing quite a while and the wind was blowing hard. He took a load of wood into the

kitchen amidst a flurry of big flakes. As he dropped the wood beside the open fire he heard his mother say something. “She talking to me?” he wondered.

She stood at the open window looking out until a strong gust of wind forced her to close the shutter. “Oh Polly, where are you? I told you to come home in daylight, and now it’s darkening up and the wolves will start to howl.” As she fretted aloud, the wolves indeed could be heard in the distance. “You get with that silly Molly Stuart and you don’t give a thought to the time. Oh Polly, please come home now!”

Slowly Dimond began to picture the situation. As well as Polly knew the way, she could still lose her bearings in this blizzard; she could easily walk off the bridge into the freezing branch. Or maybe those pesky wolves had her cornered and she needed rescuing.

He knew what he had to do. Quickly he grabbed the old flintlock leaning against the chimney and started out the door.

“No, Dimond—” his mother started, but remembering, she clapped her hands over her mouth.

He stopped in the barn to load the gun with powder and ball and then he set out through the blinding snow for the Stuart’s, peering hard into the darkness on both sides. As he approached the bridge he could see Polly standing up against a tree and between them gleamed six yellow slanting eyes. The old flintlock had never shot straight since Moses, playing Redcoats with the unloaded gun, had fallen and hit the barrel against a rock.

“If I aim at the middle two eyes,” thought Dimond, “I’m bound to hit one of them. It’s now or never.” He aimed and fired, and the wolves ran off with great yelping. “Run, Polly,” he hollered, “I’ll hold ’em off till you get home.” She ran, and Dimond was shaking in his boots knowing he couldn’t fire the gun again without more shot. Then he spotted a dark mound on the fresh snow. Taking a few stops forward he saw that it was a motionless wolf. “Well,” he



ABOUT TOWN

BENCHES ON MAIN STREET

Five handsome benches have been placed on concrete pads along the East side of Main Street, with two more to be put in front of Town Hall.

The idea for these public benches came from the TIF (Tax Incentive Finance) Committee, but it was Bill Prokop who carried it out. He organized fund raising and physically "planted" the benches in their current locations. Without his efforts, the project simply would not have materialized.

Funds to purchase the benches and the concrete pads were provided by Paul and Sara Vasques, the Antrim Players, Edmunds' Hardware, Granite Bank, Monadnock Paper Mills, and Rick and Diane's Pizzeria. Thanks also go to Cogworks, Ltd., Riley Mountain Products, and Tenney Farms who supported the effort with products or manpower.

Dick Edmunds organized the purchase and assembly of the benches and installation of their cement footings.

The Selectmen have expressed great appreciation for the private initiative that has brought this project to fruition. ♣

GREGG LAKE ASSOCIATION

The Gregg Lake Association had a picnic meeting on August 25 at the Town Beach in the pavilion it gave to the Town some years ago.

The agenda included concerns that the Rules-of-Boating sign has not been installed this year and that a pervasive lake-water odor has been troublesome all summer. Repeated tests have shown the water to be in perfect condition, so the source of the smell remains a mystery. (Speculation has it that a moose carcass may be responsible, but this has not been proved.)

HOT TO TROT 4-H CLUB

By Beth Merrill

The eighth annual Hot To Trot 4-H Open-Horse Show was held August 12, and was dedicated to the memory of former member, leader, and supporter Michelle Willett. The Michelle Willett Pleasure Championship class was an added feature of the show. A tack trunk, given by Cheryl Willett, was presented to the winner of the class, Brigitte Gutgesell, riding *Dutchess*. Division champions for the day were as follows:

ADULT: William Harris & *Pride*, Antrim; SENIOR: Brigitte Gutgesell & *Dutchess*, Antrim; JUNIOR: Caitlin Campbell & *TRM Gemini Star*, Antrim; BEGINNER A: Emily Auger & *Jet's Moe Hawk*, Goffstown; BEGINNER B: Maggie Vogel & *Lotti*, Acworth.

The club would like to thank all the sponsors for their financial support; Antrim Mailbox Video, Antrim Village Cafe, Bagel Place & Deli, Bennington Country Store, Bennington Garage, Billerica Masonry, Burbak Companies, Caron's Diner, Chuck Hardwick's Hay Business, A Common Place Eatery, Edmunds' Hardware, Frankestown Village Store, Friends of Gem, Great Brook Vet Clinic, D.H. Hardwick & Sons, Lori J. Hardwick, Jaffrey Auto Service, Lee's Lawn Service, Lyons Logging, the Maplehurst Inn, Miller Construction, Miller Plumbing & Heating, N.A. Builders, Pins & Needles, Theodore Renna, M.D., Rick & Diane's Pizzeria, Shear Locks, Sunswept Farm, T-Bird Mini Mart, Tenney Farm, Trends of Fashion, Don Trow & Sons Logging, Valley Home Center, Wayno's Store, Cheryl Willett. ♣

PIZZERIA FACE-LIFT

Rick and Diane Davis are currently upgrading their Pizzeria building on Main Street. The building is one of Antrim's oldest—well over 200 years. Rick and Diane, having successfully run a pizzeria and restaurant there for almost four years under a lease arrangement, have now bought the building. Says Rick, "Our first step is a face-lift which I am now doing. I had early training in building restorations, working with my father, Dick Davis and Phil Baker in the '70s. I was lucky to have some great craftsmen show me the ropes, especially my Dad."

The fact-lift will include new double doors, installation of two picture windows, removing stucco from the front and replacing it with clapboards, a paint job and installation of an awning. Subsequent work will move the kitchen from the back to the right front corner of the building and will see the creation of a two bedroom apartment in the rear.

Some Antrim residents may recall that, years ago, Wayno Olson ran a lunch counter in this same building, and before that, it housed a First National grocery store. ♣

ANTRIM WOMAN'S CLUB

The club will meet at the Baptist church on Tuesday, September 11, at 12:30 PM for a potluck luncheon. President Martha Brown will greet members and their guests. Following the luncheon a drawing for the raffle items will take place.

Raffle tickets are still available for a chance to own one of the beautiful quilted wall hangings, a pillow, or a basket of toiletries. The money will benefit the Tuttle Library.

At the October 9 meeting, there will be a speaker to talk about Covered Bridges.

The November 13 meeting will feature Kathryn Chisholm, Tuttle Library Director, who will show slides and talk about her recent travels in Scotland. ♣



Antrim Presbyterian Church
588-2209
Rev. Jonathan Lange

Sunday Schedule as of Sept 9

Worship 10:30 AM
(child care available for 4-year-olds and under)

Sept. 9 Youth Rally (immediately following service)

Sept. 9 Choir (join new choir season)

Sept. 16 Sunday School (all welcome)

Antrim Baptist Church
588-6614

Pastor Charles V. Boucher
Cherryl Boucher, Associate Pastor

Sunday Schedule

Bible Adventures 9:15 AM
Worship 10:30 AM

(Nursery and junior church provided)

Sept. 16 Rally Day

Oct. 6 Harvest Dinner 5-7 PM

Club Adventure

Wednesdays 3:30-5 PM

Sept 12 & 26

Oct 10 & 24

Nov 7 & Tuesday Nov 20

Food Pantry open every Saturday from 10 am to 12 noon.

Antrim Church of Christ

588-6178

Pastor Bill McInich

Sunday Schedule

Bible Study 9:30 AM
Worship 11:00 AM

Bible Study

Mondays-Ladies 10-11:00 AM
Wednesdays-General 7-8:00 PM
Thursdays-Pre-Teen & Adults
7-8:30 PM

Clothing shop and Food Pantry open the 2nd and 4th Saturday from 10:30 AM to 12 NOON.

Bennington Congregational Church
588-2398

Rev. Dan Poling

Sunday Worship 10:30 AM

Saint Patrick Church
588-2180

Rev. Richard A. Smith

Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:15 PM
Sunday 8 & 10:30 AM

Mon-Fri 7:30 AM

Penance 1/2 hour before all weekday masses and by request

Sacramental Life

Baptism by appointment

Marriage arrangements 6 months before wedding.

Sacrament of the Sick. Please notify rectory of confined or sick members.



LEGION POST 50

Do you have any American flags that have gone past usefulness such as faded, tattered, torn or other damage? If so, and you need a place to properly dispose of them, the Legion can help. There is a ceremony for flag disposal and this ceremony will be conducted at the Post Home on West Street in Antrim. The date is November 11, Veterans Day, at 7 PM regardless of the weather.

On November 17, the Saturday before Thanksgiving, the Post's Annual Turkey Raffle will be held at the Post Home. The proceeds from this event are used to help defray expenses of organizations sponsored by the Legion such as various scouting activities, so come prepared for a fun night starting at 7 PM.

GIRL SCOUTS

Registration of girl scouts for the coming season has been tentatively set on the evening of September 11 at the Great Brook School cafeteria. However, since as of this writing the date could not be confirmed, watch for announcements! Meanwhile, up-to-the-minute information may be had by calling Kristy Boulé at 588-2939. ♣

BOY SCOUTS TROOP 2

By Dick Jennison

In July, seven scouts from Troop 2, with Scoutmaster Stew Bennion and Assistant Scoutmaster Steve Osienski spent a week at Camp Bell, one of two camps on the Griswall Scout Reservation in Gilmanton, New Hampshire.

At Camp Bell all meals were cooked by the scouts and the troop worked as a unit in most of their daily activities. Each scout earned the Forestry merit badge. Scouts attending the camp included: Mike Osienski, Rich Osienski, Tyler French, Troy French, Ralph Morton, Andrew Bennion, and Stephen Nichols. Additional merit badges went to Tyler French and Derek Witherell who earned the Climbing merit badge. Ralph Morton and Andrew Bennion earned the Cooking and Sailing merit badges, and Stephen Nichols earned the Sailing merit badge.

In August, Troop 2 went on a canoe trip to the upper Connecticut River. This trip included not only scouts but families as well. On Monday August 6, we canoed from West Stewartstown to Colebrook. On the 7th we canoed from Colebrook to Columbia. We covered a total of 26 river miles during those two days. We made a base camp at Maidstone State Park at Maidstone Lake in Vermont and stayed three nights.

Wednesday the troop motored to Thetford Hills State Park in Thetford, Vermont for two nights of camping. We spent Wednesday afternoon and Thursday canoeing and swimming on the White River between Bethel and Sharon, Vermont. Except for a couple of evening showers the weather was extremely warm and clear. Leaders of this trip included Linda Osienski, Edmond Hebert, and Dick Jennison.

Troop 2 will be parking cars again this year at the New Boston Fair. And a reminder that the fall season will begin with our first meeting on September 10 at the Oddfellows-Legion Hall at 6:30 PM.

Anyone interested in becoming a Scout, ages 11 to 18, please come to our Monday evening meetings. We'll be delighted to supply you with information and an application. ♣



BOOK DISPLAYS

Sept Celts/"Home Sweet Home Month"
Oct Harvest Cooking, Preserving, etc.
Nov Culinary Crimes

PROGRAMS

- **Oct 26** Halloween Storytime
- Library Open House for AES & GBS teachers, date TBA

SCHOOL VISITS

The staff are looking forward to seeing Antrim Elementary school students soon. Remember that September is "Library card sign-up month". If you don't yet have a Tuttle Library card, this is the time to come in and get one. Children in kindergarten and up are eligible for cards.

ANTRIM VILLAGE VISITS

- September 5
- October 3
- November 7

NEW ADULT BOOKS: FICTION

Elizabeth Berg *Never Change*; James Lee Burke *Bitterroot*; Michelle Chalfour *The Width of the Sea*; John Farrow *Ice Lake*; Katie Fforde *Second Thyme Around*; Elizabeth Lowell *Moving Target*; Judith Tarr *Daughter of Lir*; Kate Wilhelm *Desperate Measures*.

NON FICTION

Sister Wendy Beckett *The Mystery of Love*; Linda Hogan *The Woman Who Watches Over the World*; Betsy Keefer *Telling the Truth to Your Adopted or Foster Child*; Lynda Morgenroth *Boston Neighborhoods*; Farley Mowat *Walking on the Land*.

MYSTERIES

Giles Blunt *40 Words for Sorrow*; John Connolly *Dark Hollow* and *Death Dines at 8:30*; Bartholomew Gill *The Death of an Irish Sinner*; Andrew M. Greeley *The Bishop and the Beggar Girl of St. Germain*; Sue Henry *Dead North*; Val McDermid *Report for Murder*; Perri O'Shaughnessy *Writ of Execution*; Nancy Pickard *Ring of Truth*.

SCIENCE FICTION/FANTASY

Ann Chamberlin *The Merlin of St. Gilles' Well* and *The Merlin of the Oak Wood*.

LIBRARY HOURS

Mon & Wed 2-6:00 PM
Tues & Thurs ... 2-8:00 PM
Friday 9:00 AM-12 NOON
Saturday..... 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

HOLIDAY HOURS

The Library will be closed on the following holidays:

- Sept 3 Labor Day
- Oct 8 Columbus Day
- Nov 12 Veterans Day
- Nov 22 Thanksgiving Day

NEW OUTDOOR BOOK DROP

Have you seen our new "big blue" book drop at the back entrance to the library? It ready to be used and convenient for drive-up drop off. Please don't put audiovisual materials in it—they will melt in this heat! Continue to use the front drop for these items.

CELTIC CELEBRATION

Remember to check out the workshops at the Library during the 3rd Annual Celtic Celebration on Sunday September 30. If anyone would like to volunteer to help out at the festival, contact Kathy Chisholm, Andy Chapman, Kelley Collins, Lois Harriman, or Pam Taylor.

TRUSTEES' BOOK SALE

In conjunction with the Celtic Celebration (hopefully with thousands of people in town!) the Board of Trustees will hold their annual Book Sale on the Library lawn. We are happy to accept donations of books for this event (please no textbooks). Check it out and stock up on winter (yes, winter) reading materials.

MORE THAN JUST BOOKS!

If you haven't been to the Library in a while, stop by and check out our books-on-tape, books-on-CD, music CDs, and videos. We also have Internet access on our public use computer. Keep up with technology at the Tuttle Library. You can even renew your books by e-mail at: tuttle@conknet.com

When in doubt, ask a Librarian.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal." Familiar words, but few people are familiar with the rest of the Declaration of Independence.

Those who came to the Bandstand for coffee on the morning of the Fourth of July heard the entire declaration, written by our forefathers 225 years ago, read by Bill Nichols and Dean Proctor, two long-time members of the Antrim Players.

Since the re-creation of the Bandstand in 1994 the Historical Society has sponsored a morning coffee hour on Independence Day, and each year more people come to Memorial Park to enjoy the treats and to socialize. In the future the reading of the Declaration will become a part of this annual event.

Since the Town Hall opened in 1894 there has been an unending variety of activities taking place in its upstairs auditorium, generating a collection of pictures and programs that will soon be on display at the Tuttle Library.

Not only plays and costume balls, but basketball games and poultry shows provided entertainment for the people of Antrim in the Town Hall. Perhaps the most meaningful annual event was the high school graduation ceremony which was accompanied by elaborate decorations.

Dotti Penny and Jacque Cottle are planning their exhibit to coincide with the grand opening of the newly renovated Town Hall on September 15. This interesting panorama of Antrim's history may be viewed during Library hours. ♣

CELTIC CELEBRATION

Join the fun on Sunday September 30 at the 3rd Annual Antrim Celtic Celebration, a day-long festival honoring our Scots and Irish roots of Antrim's settlers. The festival will be held at various downtown locations including Antrim's Churches and the Tuttle Library. Workshops, performances, music jam sessions, Celtic vendors selling food, jewelry, tee-shirts, and other merchandise to remember the day. Call Kathy at 588-6786 for more information. ♣

CUSTOMER SERVICE

IT TAKES A VILLAGE...

By Edwin Roberts

Edwin Roberts' memoir refers to the late Jane Pratt whom many will remember by her married name, Jane Hill. She was once Antrim's extraordinary telephone operator.

—Editor

I left Antrim for college in Connecticut in September 1955.

The fall passed quickly and soon the four-day Thanksgiving break approached.

Although rides were sometimes available to northern New England, one option was to take the train to either Greenfield or East Northfield, Massachusetts, and since conventional wisdom said that the distance from Antrim to either of those places was immaterial in either miles or vistas, I elected to take the train to East Northfield where I would need to be met. I notified my parents accordingly.

Upon arriving at the appointed station at the appointed time, I noted that my parents were nowhere to be seen. Nor had anyone come in their place. I waited for a half hour, an hour, an hour and fifteen minutes. Finally, I called home. This took some doing.

The Contoocook Valley Telephone Company was then a small independently owned and operated telephone company with manual switchboards in each little town along the river.

"Operator," I said, after depositing my dime and dialing '0' on the rotary dial, "I want to make a collect call to Antrim, New Hampshire, 2-2, ring 1-2." The operator took a deep breath as if in preparation to swim under water and called a long distance operator to determine the route.

After some minutes of thumbing through a dog-eared manual, the long distance operator dictated the following information:

"That's a ring-down, TC Petersboro," she said, (meaning a manual switchboard, toll-center Peterboro—and for some reason they always seemed to put

an 's' in Peterboro). She then issued a long series of numbers constituting the 'route' which the first operator, after thanking the long distance operator, put into action.

As if by magic, and within seconds, the friendly voice of Jane Pratt said "Operator". When getting a long distance call, she rarely said "Number, please" or "Wadda you want?" (which she reserved for those times when her intuition told her some bothersome kid was on the line).

"This is a collect call from Edwin for anyone at 2-2 ring 1-2" my operator said.

"There's nobody home," said Jane without hesitation and without trying the number.

"Excuse me?" queried my Massachusetts operator, in disbelief.

"There's nobody home," Jane repeated. "I saw them drive out of town this afternoon about three o'clock." And then, after a brief silence, and with a calculated air of resignation, she said "Let me talk to him," whereupon my Massachusetts operator, with a sigh of relief, pulled her plug leaving me connected to Jane.

"Hi..." it was a musical phrase the way she said it.

Waves of uninhibited emotion swept over me. This was a friendly voice! Not the automated version of air passing over the synthetic vocal folds saying "For checking accounts, press one, for savings accounts, press two, for all other questions," etc., that we have come to expect when making routine business calls. This was the flesh and blood connection to Jane, the waitress at the church supper, the 'live wire' organizer of the Vacation Bible School, the young woman painting her fingernails red to pass the time while spotting and identifying airplanes from a small wooden tower at the top of Summer Street during World War II.

This was a friendly voice to someone stranded in a largely deserted railroad station somewhere in central Massachusetts on a chilly November evening.

"Where are you?" Jane asked.

"I'm at the East Northfield railroad station," I said.

"I know they left," Jane said, "I saw them drive by the office about three o'clock. Hold on," she said, "so you're coming home at last are you? Come and see me!" She had been my brother's girl friend.

She put me on hold. Three minutes later she came back on. You must realize that, during this three minutes, she was operating the switchboard as usual from her high swivel chair, handling the myriad calls that normally pour through "central" (as it was called) with all those red and black rubber hoses with brass plugs at one end coming out of the horizontal platform directly in front of her and fitting into endless combinations of neat little holes in the upright apparatus; connecting people on Elm Street with people on Summer Street and people on West Street with people on Depot Street and people at the Inn with people out of town and business people with other business people and people wanting to chat or gossip with others of a like mind, Presbyterians talking to Baptists, even Protestants actually (though rarely) talking to Catholics, and, of course, people listening-in since these were almost exclusively party lines.

"Sit tight," she said, "they're on their way."

"What'd you do?" I asked.

"I called the Greenfield station," she said, "and, sure enough, they were there because they thought you said, 'Pick me up at Greenfield,' which is probably what you said!" she rubbed it in slightly. "At any rate, they were getting worried, but now they're okay. They'll be there in half an hour."

"Thank you, Jane!"

Now that's customer Service!

Incidentally, no long distance charge for that date ever appeared on any bill.



GREAT BROOK SCHOOL

By Barbara Black

HANCOCK DEPOT PROJECT

An exciting new program to integrate curriculum, environmental studies, and community service has been added to the Great Brook Curriculum. The "Hancock Depot Project", in the planning stages since last spring, received final approval from the School Board in August. Extended Learning teacher Beth Frost and an aide will be based at the old Hancock Train Depot for the school year. All Great Brook Students and Staff will have the opportunity to work at the Depot for a three week period.

Ms Frost will coordinate with individual teachers to plan a field experience which enriches current curriculum for each class. Possible activities and projects will fall within four main areas of study. These will be ongoing explorations in which a variety of classes may participate throughout the year.

One opportunity is to study the history of trains in Hancock and to create a museum at the Depot. Other sessions will focus on fresh water biology and local habitat exploration. Land and community heritage connections may be explored by mapping Welch Farm and creating a trail around Norway Pond. The fourth goal is to create elder connections through community service and an oral history project.

The Hancock Depot program will strengthen Great Brook School's place-based education program. Everyone benefits when students learn through projects that serve the needs of the communities in which they live.

NEW FACES IN NEW PLACES AT GBS

Many staff changes have taken place over the summer. New staff has been hired as well as veteran staff members moving to new positions. The most changes have occurred in the GBS office. Gerti Kanner retired last year. In her place as Administrative Assistant will be Laura Leigh who worked in the GBS office last year. Kathy Wasserloos will be moving from AES to become the

new GBS School Secretary. Peggy Brown will be a half time Guidance Counselor. Ms Brown has conducted facilitator workshops for the district as part of Open Door Consulting in the past.

The school administrative tasks will be shared among Principal Rick Nannicelli, Donna Fairbairn, and Dan Noel. Mrs. Fairbairn, Extended Learning Teacher at Great Brook for several years, will be a half time Assistant Principal. Dan Noel is a Keene State College student who will be serving a year-long principal internship at GBS this year.

Lori Stumpfoll will be the new Special Education teacher for the fifth grade team. She came from Milton, Massachusetts and has just bought a house in Bennington. Her son will start kindergarten this year. Linda Bundy will be teaching a fifth grade class this year. Long time parent volunteer Kathy Gorman will be a fifth grade classroom aide.

Brenda Schaefer will be moving to a sixth grade aide position. Joining her will be Donna Brand who has substituted in the district as well as Cassie Anderson, a parent volunteer at the Grapevine.

Nikki Janulis will be moving from AES to the humanities position on the seventh grade team. She will teach social studies and language arts. Cynthia Wolfe formerly of Mascenic Middle School and Franklin Pierce College will be the new seventh grade Special Education Teacher.

Beth San Martino will switch from her humanities position to teaching eighth grade math and MEGGS math. New staff will also be hired for the half time French and Spanish positions.

TEACHER EDUCATION

New programs in science and math will begin to be phased in this year. District study groups have worked for two years to determine the best ways to strengthen Con Val curriculum in these two areas. Teacher workshops started this summer and will continue throughout the school year. Workshop days and

perhaps some early-release time will be used to make sure that staff receive the instruction needed to make these programs successful. Curriculum evaluation is an ongoing process to keep the district current with technology and skills students need to be successful citizens and life-long learners.



FISHING DERBY 2001

By Janet MacLachlan

This year's Antrim Fishing Derby took place at the Great Brook Mill Pond behind Wayno's store on Saturday morning May 19th at 8 AM. There were 49 eager and excited youngsters with their parents, fishing poles in hand, trying to catch one or more of the 300 brook trout which had been stocked in the pond. This is an annual event sponsored by the Antrim Parks and Recreation Department and run by Dave Wilson who took on the job in 1993 from Pat Webber.

The fish, which average 10 to 12 inches in length, come from the Souhegan Valley Hatchery in Milford. Dave buys 150 fish from them, NH Fish and Game agency then matches it, bringing the total to 300.

There were many electrifying moments when a youngster caught one of those fish on his or her line.

Prizes are given for various categories but Dave sees to it that every child goes away with a prize as a memento of the derby. He feels very strongly that the real purpose of the derby is to give a child, perhaps for the first time, the thrill of fishing.

The Antrim Fishing Derby is held each spring at the Great Brook Mill Pond. It is for children under the age of 16 and is not limited to Antrim residents—rather, is open to any child who wants to try his or her hand at fishing. Dave Wilson would like to thank Steve Schacht and family for their help, and Edmunds' Hardware, Rick and Diane's Pizzeria, and Hillsboro's Village Discount store for generous donations. ♣

RECREATION NEWS

By Celeste Lunetta

The Antrim Parks and Recreation Department had a successful summer.

AT THE LAKE

At Gregg Lake beach, on July 4, children and parents had a fun and wild time playing capture the flag, greased watermelon polo, singing and crafting. As the summer heat increased, the hottest days saw over 100 patrons at a time enjoying the clean and refreshing water. After a few trial placements, the raft finally settled into the deepest spot of the guarded area, which was surprisingly close to the shore. Many families enjoyed the closer location of the popular raft, and the 12–20-year-old set seemed to have adapted as well. Swim lessons were well attended, with an enrollment of 60 children. The end-of-the-beach season party, planned by the lifeguards for Friday August 24, promised to be fun for all.

AT THE GYM

At the Town Gym, a wide variety of programs were well attended by local youth. The season started out with a popular tennis camp. The next few weeks saw children participating in a ballet camp, a Red Cross Basic Aid training program, soccer camp, clown camp, and basketball camp. In all, 80 children participated in these programs. The Town Gym also hosted open play times and movies.

FRIENDS OF RECREATION

The Antrim Friends of Recreation also kept busy this season. This group had a first-ever Bookfair fundraiser. Look for this exciting fundraiser next summer as well. The group also provided funds to help *Antrim In The Evening* bring Alex the Jester to the Memorial Park Bandstand on August 15. This unique and funny show was well enjoyed by all. Friends of Recreation is also planning some back-to-school dances for September. On Friday, September 7, there will be a social for students in 5th and 6th grades, and on Saturday the 8th, there will be a dance for students in 7th, 8th, and 9th grades.

AFOR volunteers are also to be thanked for their work in supplying soda for the beach, repainting the guard chair, helping clean the beach, helping to supervise open gym, and helping to register kids for soccer and basketball camps. Hats off to the volunteers who have helped so willingly with recreation programs this summer: Lois Essex, Nancy Blair, Jean Nanicelli, Kathy McGuire, Mae Lizotte, Linda Breyer, Janet McEwen, and Pam Caswell. We certainly appreciated all of their support.

THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

As the new school year begins, look for family programming, such as foliage hikes, back road bike trips and star watches. Check the weekly papers for postings of open gym times and other special programs. Regular programming at the Town Gym includes Basketball on Tuesday nights, Volleyball on Thursdays, and Cardio-Kickboxing on Mondays and Wednesdays. Great Brook Soccer League, a recreational league for kids in grades K-6 is now in the planning stages. Rick Davis also continues to hold a softball pitching clinic for girls ages 10 and up, on Tuesday evenings.

PRIVATE CELEBRATIONS

Both the Bandstand at Memorial Park and the Gregg Lake Swimming Beach pavilion are often used by citizens for private celebrations. The Bandstand can be reserved by calling the Recreation office at 588-3121. The Gregg Lake pavilion will remain on a first-come, first-served basis. ♣

Library Expansion *continued*

An elevator which will access all three levels of the library is also included in the plans. The building will receive a sprinkler and fire alarm system and other necessary improvements in HVAC.

The anticipated cost of the project is \$900,000 which includes a contingency and all related fees. The Trustees plan to ask the Town to fund \$650,00 and to fund-raise the balance. Thanks to the building committee for their efforts in bringing the project so far along in a short span of time. ♣

THE GRAPEVINE

By Kristin Vance

Summer at The Grapevine Family & Community Resource Center was a time for making connections with people and organizations in town. Our Better Beginnings parents enjoyed craft activities with some folks in Antrim Village, and we joined with Great Brook School's Nancy Blair to offer a Red Cross babysitting and CPR course to 13 children. We look forward to continuing these and other community relationships.

FALL 2001 PROGRAMS

The Grapevine begins its 5th year offering programs and services to families and individuals in Antrim and surrounding towns. We are beginning the fall season with a welcome addition to the staff. Trish Murphy, M.Ed., who recently moved from Munsonville to Clinton Road with her family, is leading the Monday and Thursday morning Better Beginnings playgroups. Trish is working at The Grapevine part-time while she continues her work as Pre-school Consultant to the Conval School District and as Early Childhood Educator with Easter Seals in Keene.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

The Grapevine is seeking caring adults to help our Early Childhood Educators in the playroom. Volunteers may work as few as 3 hours each month or as many as 9 hours each week, from 9 AM to 12 NOON weekdays. No experience necessary—just a desire to help nurture the development of our young children.

WOOD BANK

The Grapevine is organizing a wood bank for families and individuals who use wood to heat their homes and are in need of free firewood to get through the winter. We are looking at a couple of possible sites in town, and are seeking donations of wood and time. If you have some extra wood, or would like to help out with splitting and stacking, please call Carolyn at the Grapevine.

↳ — continued on page 14

thought, "if it's still alive I can beat it to death with the gunstock."

But it was dead all right. He'd hit his mark, in spite of the old gun. He grabbed the animal by its tail and dragged it through the storm toward his own barn, just hoping the other two wolves were still headed in the other direction.

When Constable Warren had made his way home and went to put the horse into his stall, he was surprised to find his younger son sitting on the chopping block, still holding the old flintlock. "What's all this?" he exclaimed, gingerly toeing the wolf carcass. "Did you shoot this wolf? Where was it?"

"You speaking to me?" Dimond started to respond bravely, but the moment the silence was broken he began to shake violently and to his disgust tears began to spill over.

"Come into the house, lad," his father said, grabbing his arm. "Does your mother know what you've done?" Dimond felt miserable, thinking "I never get it right."

"Liz! Liz!" Constable Warren called as they approached the cabin. "Come out—we've got a hero here!" His mother hugged him and called him a brave boy, and Polly jabbered away about how scared she was and Dimond saved her life. Moses said nothing but grinned in a proud way.

"And listen to this," went on his father, "at Town Meeting they voted to pay \$5 for every dead wolf, and that's on top of the \$5 the state will pay. You'll be a rich man, my lad!"

Ten dollars! One for each year of his life. Well Dimond knew where it was going. "Marm", he said, "you can have the money, to make up for the ewes that the wolves killed. I can probably catch me another one tomorrow night."

After firm warnings that he should never take such a chance again, the family sat down to a supper of hasty pudding, thankful that events had turned out the way they had.

Dimond was just thankful to be let out of Coventry. Wherever that might be.

FROM THE TOWN HISTORY

The Warren and Stuart families lived where the Maharishi Vedic School is now. They were among the first settlers at North Branch, and had few other neighbors during the severe winter of 1784–1785, when wolves were terrorizing the area. The Town of Antrim and the State of New Hampshire did indeed vote to pay a bounty of \$5 for every dead wolf, but whether Dimond Warren was a lucky hunter or not is not recorded. ♣

Russ Russell *continued*

We were held for a while in Normandy to fatten us up and get us in better shape. The greatest problem we had in the prison camp was our lack of food. This was probably deliberate since there were thousands of Red Cross parcels found in a warehouse afterwards.

The day our ship arrived down in Virginia was my mother's birthday, June 20th.

DELAYED STRESS SYNDROME

Since the Korean war the "Delayed Stress Syndrome" has been recognized, and I can see where I suffered from this without knowing it. After World War II you came back as you came back, and if you had problems, they were your problems. So, bad dreams pursued me up until just a few years ago. In my case, though I never saw the kind of action the guys on the ground did—for us it was a clean war—still the extreme fear was there. There would have to be something wrong with you if it weren't there. Toward the end of my missions I almost welcomed the fight. They called that being "flack happy." I think the best way to handle a mad situation that you can't correct is to go mad yourself, which I think is what happened to a lot of soldiers.

I was in the army for the Korean War and the beginning of Viet Nam, but I didn't serve over seas again. I finished my military career as an illustrator with the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon, and I retired as a Master Sergeant in 1966. ♣

SERVICES AVAILABLE AT THE GRAPEVINE

• **Information and Referral:** Call us at 588-2620 for information about area resources for financial assistance, food, childcare, legal assistance, clothing, health and dental care, and other needs.

• **Heating Fuel and Electric Assistance:** The Electric Assistance program is a new program provided by Southern NH Services. It provides eligible PSNH customers with a monthly discount of approximately 25% of their electric bills. A SNHS representative will be at The Grapevine Thursday mornings from 9 AM to 1 PM beginning in October. Call The Grapevine or SNHS, 924-2243, for more information or to make an appointment.

• **Child and Family Counseling:** Provided at The Grapevine by Monadnock Family Services by appointment Monday, Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday. Sliding scale fee.

• **Support and Resources:** For families with children with developmental delays or disabilities, ADD & ADHD, and chronic illness, offered by Denise Yeardi of Monadnock Developmental Services. Call Denise, 352-1304 or The Grapevine for an appointment. First Tuesday of the month from 9:30 AM to 12 NOON.

• **Family Conflict Resolution:** offered at The Grapevine by Milford Area Mediation Services by appointment. Free.

• **Help for Women** experiencing domestic abuse offered by Women's Crisis Services.

Call the The Grapevine at 588-2620 for more information about the above services.

THANK YOU

Our thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make the 2nd Annual Benefit Auction on the 4th of July a big success, and to those who donated auction items and equipment.

The Grapevine is a nonprofit service organization funded by grants and financial contributions. Support also comes from many other community members and organizations with donated time, talent and supplies. Thank you for your support. ♣

ANTRIM IN THE EVENING

By Jonas Taub

By the time you read this, another season of Antrim In The Evening summer concerts will have drawn to a close. There have been many great performances, good food and desserts, and a lot of fun for everyone. Even the mosquitoes were not too bad this summer.

Antrim In The Evening is made possible entirely through the generous contributions of local businesses and individuals. This was a great summer of music and fun activities, but it was also the most successful year for contributions. Special thanks go to all those whose contributions made it possible to keep the music playing this year.

Antrim In The Evening has been fortunate to have the steady support of Major Sponsors—the Antrim Congregational Church, Family on Board, Homicz & Perry Family Dental Care, and Monadnock Paper Mills. Monadnock Paper Mills has been a supporter of Antrim In The Evening since its first

year of concerts. Co-Sponsors Antrim Lumber and Wayno's Market have also been steady supporters, while the Crotched Mountain Foundation and J.S. Kendall Custom Builders joined this generous group as co-sponsors this year.

Booster Support has come from the following businesses and is greatly appreciated: Edmunds' Hardware; Great Brook Veterinary Clinic; Diane Kendall, LMT, Massage Therapy; Andy Paul, Writer; Reade & Woods Insurance Co.; Rick and Diane's Pizzeria; T-Bird Mini Mart/Cheshire Oil. Graphic design support was provided by RLB Productions.

Antrim In The Evening also enjoyed the generous contributions of many individuals who sent their contributions in, dropped them in the donation bucket, or who bought Strawberry Shortcake, Ice Cream Sundaes, coffee, and pastries, pizza, massages, BBQ chicken and snow cones (remember those hot summer nights in August?). Many bought raffle tickets for a chance at the more than 30

prizes donated by local businesses. A special thanks to all the businesses who donated products and services for this raffle.

Many individuals donated their time to make this summer's concerts possible. Thanks to the Concert Committee: Andy Chapman, Lois Essex, Janet McEwen, Jeanice Farley, Andy Paul, Brian Sawich, and Jonas Taub. Others who assisted with the many tasks included Izi Nichols, Nina Harding, members of the Antrim Historical Society, the Antrim Chapter of Odd Fellows, Celeste Lunetta and the Antrim Recreation Committee.

The 39th Army Band, which was unable to perform in Antrim this summer, will return next year. Also there will be a new and improved July 4th Soap Box Derby preceded by a spring workshop on "How To Build A Soapbox Racer".

See you next summer! ♣



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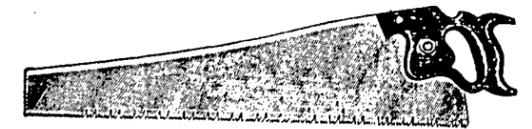
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SEPT

- 4 BETTER BEGINNINGS • The Grapevine • 9:30 AM
- 5 THE LEARNING VINE • The Grapevine • 9 AM
- 5 TUTTLE LIBRARY visit to Antrim Village
- 7 5th & 6th GRADE SOCIAL • Rec Center
- 8 7th, 8th & 9th GRADE DANCE • Rec Center
- 9 YOUTH RALLY • Antrim Presbyterian Church
- 9 CHOIR • Antrim Presbyterian Church
- 10 BOY SCOUTS TROOP 2 • Oddfellows-Legion Hall • 6:30 PM
- 11 ANTRIM WOMAN'S CLUB • Meeting & Luncheon • 12:20 PM
- 11 GIRL SCOUTS Registration • Great Brook School
- 12 CLUB ADVENTURE • Antrim Baptist Church • 3:30-5 PM
- 15 TOWN HALL OPEN HOUSE • 9 AM-12 NOON
- 16 RALLY DAY • Antrim Baptist Church
- 26 CLUB ADVENTURE • Antrim Baptist Church • 3:30-5 PM
- 30 3rd ANNUAL CELTIC CELEBRATION • 10 AM-4 PM
- 30 TUTTLE LIBRARY TRUSTEES Book Sale



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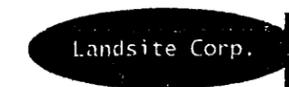
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ANTRIM COMMUNITY CALENDAR

OCT

- 3 TUTTLE LIBRARY visit to Antrim Village
- 6 HARVEST DINNER • Antrim Baptist Church • 5-7 PM
- 9 ANTRIM WOMAN'S CLUB • Meeting
- 10 CLUB ADVENTURE • Antrim Baptist Church • 3:30-5 PM
- 24 CLUB ADVENTURE • Antrim Baptist Church • 3:30-5 PM
- 26 HALLOWEEN STORYTIME • Tuttle Library

NOV

- 7 TUTTLE LIBRARY visit to Antrim Village
- 7 CLUB ADVENTURE • Antrim Baptist Church • 3:30-5 PM
- 11 LEGION POST 50 • Flag Ceremony • 7 PM
- 13 ANTRIM WOMAN'S CLUB • Meeting
- 17 LEGION POST 50 • Turkey Raffle • 7 PM
- 20 CLUB ADVENTURE • Antrim Baptist Church • 3:30-5 PM



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