

TUTTLE LIBRARY

A MOST IMPORTANT ONE HOUR

By Ron Hagggett, Trustee

On March 13th the Town Meeting will hold a 2/3 ballot vote for a \$1.345 million warrant article for the Tuttle Library expansion project. Of this amount, \$1.3 million is for the bond issue and \$45,000 is the same release from the capital reserve that the 2002 Town Meeting voted but which was not spent. The bond issue, if passed, will add \$1.19 to the tax rate in 2004 resulting in a \$119 increase on taxes for a property assessed at \$100,000.

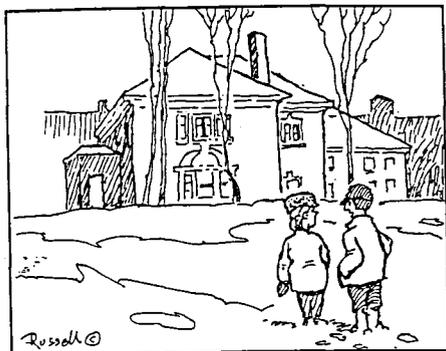
ONE HOUR BALLOT VOTE

The ballot vote on the bond requires that the polls be open for one hour. We need all who support the Tuttle Library, who realize its vital benefit to the quality of life in Antrim and who believe this is the time to build the library of the twenty-first century, to take that one hour out of your busy lives, come to Town Meeting and vote YES for the Library Expansion Bond.

We have a unique opportunity now because of low interest rates and the availability of the former Aiken property to bring the plans for the library expansion to completion after years of waiting for the right time. We believe that time is NOW.

To the argument that taxes are high and times are tough, we say that makes our library even more important than ever to our

— continued on page 3



"Kinda sad losing the old Aiken house but it sure improved the view."

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

IT'S TOWN MEETING TIME

Together with our department heads and business manager Sherry Miller, the board of selectmen have worked hard to put together a budget that will meet the needs of the Town with little impact on the tax rate. We encourage you to pick up a copy of the Town Report prior to Town Meeting and review the budget and warrant articles as well as the committee and department annual reports.

WARRANTS

There are two articles on the warrant this year that could have a major impact on Antrim's future. The first is the bond issue for the expansion of the James A. Tuttle Library. The library trustees along with a building committee have spent several years and countless hours developing a plan to solve the growth needs of the library for the next 50 years. The plan involves the construction of a 4000 square foot addition on the

— continued on page 3

SCHOOL BOARD

By Rich Morel and Denise Holmes

The proposed Conval School District budget for 2003-2004 is ready for your vote on March 11th. Voting will occur at the Antrim Town Hall, with polls open between 8 AM - 7 PM. A lot of attention has been given to the gross budget increase of 10.96% and it is important that the citizens of Antrim fully understand this figure and why it has the full support of your representatives and of the entire Board.

The major components of the 10.96% increase include Salaries and Benefits (this accounts for 76% of the total increase), paying for the renovations at AES and Conval High School, Special Education, the bus contract, and maintenance.

SALARIES AND BENEFITS

The most visible element of this increase involves the money that was approved by voters in the District last March 2002 for

— continued on page 7

TOWN VOTING



MARCH 11 8 AM—7 PM
AT TOWN HALL

See list of candidates on page 3.

TOWN MEETING

MARCH 13 7 PM
AT TOWN HALL

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

There are scholarships available for Antrim high school and college students. Applications can be found at the Antrim Town Hall and Conval Guidance office. The Jameson Scholarship is only for high school students. The Thompson Fund is for sophomore through senior college students and the Tibbetts Fund is for medical students. Applications must be placed in sealed envelopes and sent to the Antrim Town Clerk and are due in by Thursday, May 1, 2003.

Greener Pastures

When the snow on the ground is hip-high
And the wind chill could cause you to die,
You can't wait for the day
When the warm sun of May
Will unleash the obnoxious black fly.

NELLY M. THORNTON, 1898-2002

BOSTON POST CANE HOLDER

By Izi Nichols

From the *Monadnock Ledger*, December 13, 2002:

"Nelly M. Thornton, 104, of Harborside Healthcare-Pheasantwood, formerly of Antrim and Fort Lauderdale, Florida, died Dec 7, 2002. She was born July 4, 1898. At the celebration of her 100th birthday, she was presented the Boston Post Cane, given by the town of Antrim to its oldest resident.

— continued on page 11

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Please make checks payable to the ANTRIM LIMRIK. We hope people will keep up with the expiration dates of their subscriptions to the *LIMRIK*. On the mailing label is the following information:

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ADVERTISING FEES

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. Final 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 May 8, either to a staff member or to the Tuttle Library.

EDITORIAL

In this issue we are printing two articles about the Tuttle Library's proposed expansion which will be brought to a vote at Town Meeting on March 13th. The proposal needs informed consideration. Ron Haggett's article, "Tuttle Library, A Most Important One Hour" (referring to the required 'one hour' for ballot voting), might well have been titled "The Most Important One Hour in Tuttle's 94 Year History"; hyperbole aside, such would certainly point up the significance of the vote.

Discussion at Town Meeting may well involve the sheer *size* of the proposed new construction which will have twice the floor space of our present library. About this we offer two comments. (1.) Library functions in the present two-story building must be restricted to the ground floor since the second floor is structurally unable to sustain the weight of stacked books or large gatherings of people—and the basement is straight-out primitive. (2.) Ours is an expanding population, as witness the way Metropolitan Boston is gobbling up southern N.H.; it would be difficult to overestimate the amount of library space Antrim will be needing in coming years.

As to *funding* this Library expansion, the pros and cons go straight to the heart of our needs and priorities. Good luck to all of us! ♣

TRIBUTE TO THE MAESTRO OF TRASH AND TREASURE TRANSFER

By Peter Moore

It is said that, "One man's trash is another man's treasure." And I would also propose, that one man can be a treasure to a town for his transferring talents. Anyone who has taken their old worn out appliances, tires, spent oil, swap-shop reruns, Salvation Army fashions, recycled containers, corrugated boxes, or just plain compactor-bound trash to the Antrim Transfer Station over the past ten years has witnessed, experienced and appreciated the hard work and dedication of the "treasure" of which I write—Bill Lang.

Bill was "retired" by will or want from his long-time role as conductor of the ARTS orchestration last December with but a whimper of celebrity and celebration, which, knowing Bill, was probably the way he would have it. But I, on behalf of everyone who ever traveled the transfer station loop, and left their old "treasures" and trash to be dealt with, want to publicly praise Bill Lang (and the able crew that he held together for so long) for his good nature, the patience-of-a-saint, and the hard work and pride-of-place that most of us, probably more often than not, took for granted.

Thanks Bill for being the maestro of our treasures and our trash for ten-plus years, and enjoy your well deserved tranquility. ♣

CREDITS

The limerick on page 1 is by Dick Winslow, Managing Editor. The cartoons on pages 1 and 6 are the creations of Russ Russell, Art Director.

✓ **TOWN VOTING** ✓

Voting will be for Antrim Town Officers, the Conval Budget and Conval School Board.

- **1 Selectman** (3 yrs)
Michael Genest
- **1 Sewer & Water Commissioner** (3 yrs)
Fernando Barsanti
- **1 Sewer & Water Commissioner** (1 yr)
Andrew Chapman
- **1 Trustee of the Trust Funds** (3yrs)
G. Spencer Garrett
- **2 Trustees of the Library** (3 yrs)
Janis King } *Vote for 2*
Constance Kirwin }
- **2 Planning Board Members** (3 yrs)
Peter Bablowski } *Vote for 2*
Robert Bethel }
Scott Burnside }
- **1 Conval School Board Moderator** (3 yrs)
Peter Hopkins

Selectmen's Report *continued*

adjoining former Aiken House land and completely renovating the existing library structure. They are estimating the cost of the project to be \$1.3 million and are proposing to fund it with a \$1.3 million bond along with capital reserve funds previously appropriated at prior Town Meetings as well as private contributions.

The second warrant article we would single out has been submitted by the Parks and Recreation Board and involves the purchase of 25 acres of land located between North Main Street and Concord Street. This is the only remaining open land near the village which could be suitable for the future construction of recreation playing fields. Our recreation programs have become extremely popular and are quickly outgrowing the capacity of the playing fields we currently share with the middle and elementary schools. The Fred Roberts family owns the property and has offered to sell it for \$100,000. They are willing to finance the purchase interest-free over a five-year period. The board is asking for an additional \$20,000 to develop professional plans for the use of this land. Because this proposal would involve a long-term finance agreement, the warrant article must be treated like a bond issue.

Both articles will require a $\frac{2}{3}$ ballot vote for passage. It is therefore extremely important that people turn out for this vote whether they are for or against these articles.

We look forward to seeing you at Town Meeting on March 13th.

— Dave Penny for the Board of Selectmen
(Mike Genest, Dave Penny, Bill Prokop)

Library Expansion *continued*

town. In these critical times there will never be a better time to build for our future and the future of our children.

Please support your library, come to Town Meeting on March 13 and vote YES.

The addition will create a new children's room; make the library handicapped accessible; provide a young adult area; expand public computer/internet access; renovate and restore the existing building; expand the adult reading/research rooms; create adequate parking.



TUTTLE LIBRARY AND PROPOSED ADDITION

THROUGH MY KITCHEN WINDOW

By Joyce Davison

Even the squirrels are shivering this morning as they scurry around and over the table I set, just for them, along the side of my little white shed. The “red” always wins the King of the Mountain game (remember that game we used to play in grade school?) against the “gray” as he protects what he thinks is all his or perhaps her’s. Of course, setting this table does not necessarily work to keep these greedy squirrels away from my bird feeding stations.

Along with the noisy blue jays come a whole troop of “feral” pigeons, known in the bird book as rock doves. They have a certain beauty but I don’t think they have a great deal in the brain department. Anyhow, they perch along the ridge of the little roof and wait for seed dropped from the feeders by the quick little chickadee and tit mice, who, did you know, are cousins. All living things need a little extra help in this New England weather.

As a much younger person, I used to say, usually under my breath, that I would never sound like my Dad as he stood in the doorway and said, “Hurrah for old New England”. His pronouncement only meant to us kids that it was snowing, wind blowing and colder than most people wanted, and certainly not to his liking. Dad, however, would use a more descriptive vocabulary. It would also mean that my siblings and I would soon be pulling on our winter clothes (snowsuits was the word of that time) to fill the woodbox. As I looked out this morning and watched the snow blowing across my neighbor’s field and off my roof where long, solid icicles were hanging, I said, out loud no less, “Hurrah for old New England”! As we reach the age of collected wisdom, we begin to talk like our parents and the folks we grew up with. We begin to realize what helped to form the kind of people they were.

This kind of weather was always a time for my grandmother Hammond, who lived with us much of her later life, to get out the yellow ware bowl, which I am proud to say I now have, and quietly begin to put together her baking powder biscuits (which seemed to just float from the oven) or some wonderful oatmeal bread or rolls. If it was Saturday, then my Mom would also be in the kitchen preparing baked beans for the oven—in which case the wood stove needed to be kept just right for baking. I truly feel fortunate to have had a childhood like this, where we knew our family, where we knew what was expected of us and where there was continuity in our daily life. What one did contributed to the whole.

It might be fun to share some of the warm and wonderful things that have come from my childhood kitchen, so here is a recipe:

GRAM HAMMOND'S CINNAMON CRISPS

Cream together until light and fluffy:

1 $\frac{1}{3}$ cups shortening (margarine or unsalted butter)

2 cups sugar

Add to above and beat well:

1 large egg

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup molasses

2 tablespoons vinegar

Mix together the following then add to above:

4 cups flour

1 teaspoon salt

2 teaspoons baking soda

2 tablespoons cinnamon

Roll the dough on waxed paper into one long roll, or divide into two parts and roll into two rolls. The girth of the roll will be approximately the size of the baked cookie, so keep that in mind. Chill thoroughly. Preferably do this a day ahead of time for baking the next day. Cut as evenly as you can into about $\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$ inch slices and bake at 350° for about 10 to 13 minutes. A wonderful cookie for tea with a friend or a glass of milk with your kids. I make the two rolls so there is always a spare one chilled and ready to go. ♣



TOWN HISTORY REVISITED SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

By Isabel B. Nichols

Sesquicentennial: n. A 150th anniversary or its celebration. (American Heritage College Dictionary)

Saturday, August 13, 1927, saw the largest number of people ever gathered within Antrim’s boundaries—10,000. It would be safe to say that it has never happened since, nor is it likely to in the near future. The occasion was the celebration of the town’s incorporation in 1777, and distant family members, old friends and former residents had come to pay homage to Antrim. The highlight of a three-day celebration was an outdoor pageant entitled “Men of Antrim” with a cast of over 400 local actors and a crew of 60 workers. The town’s population at that time was around 1200.

The local history “Parades and Promenades”, published in 1977, was designed to bring things up to date by covering the last 100 years of the town’s growth and activities. Its editor, the late Dorothy Ellison, felt that the “Sesquicentennial” (as it has always been called) was worthy of a chapter all its own. She set out to research and write it, and pages 292–299 contain a detailed account of how the event came to be and what it meant to the community. No one who took part in it ever forgot about it.

Planning began at Town Meeting in 1925, and two years later a committee of fifteen had been appointed, with Main Street merchant Charles Butterfield (“Boots, Shoes, Hosiery and Sporting Goods”) was named chairman. Pageants were popular with the many New England towns commemorating their first settlements, and Antrim appropriated \$2,500 to ensure “the grand celebration our town deserves on this occasion.”

Ellison’s words on page 293: “Miss Leila M. Church of Rockville, Connecticut was chosen to write a pageant; she had previously written and produced similar productions for other towns. Just before town meeting, she met with the committee for two days to discuss possible methods of treatment, and at the town meeting itself she addressed the voters, most of whom by now were enthusiastic. They readily voted the appropriation of \$2,500 for expenses, and Miss Church promised to return in April to present her outline.

↳ — continued next page

“Late in April the theme was settled, and the various episodes blocked out. At a public meeting Miss Church read the script to the audience, who approved of everything but the title, which was to be ‘Men of Antrim’. Even then there was some recognition of women’s rights, and some thought the exclusively masculine title was a slur on the contribution of women. Curiously enough, the most vocal objection came from a man, John Fleming, who wrote ‘We poor boobs of men are apt to straighten our shoulders, throw out our chests, and strut around like White Leghorn roosters among a flock of hens, and think we are it. We do all the crowing, and are willing to do half the cackling when the egg is produced, but we should remember it is the good old biddy that produces the egg every time.’ This impassioned plea for recognition of women notwithstanding, the title stood, the interests of brevity precluding the rights of equality.”

She continues on page 294: “The site chosen for the pageant was the field belonging to Mrs. Julia Tenney on West Street.” (The Tenney farm is now the home of Pat and Carole Webber, and Mrs. Julia was the great-grandmother of Eric and Mark Tenney.) “Admirably suited for the purpose, this large open space was set off with pines which provided natural entrances for the cast, and the gradually rising slope at the rear was a perfect backdrop. The audience had a clear view from a knoll on Elmer Merrill’s land. For the evening performance, large flood lights were erected under the direction of Byron Butterfield. (Nature also provided a bright moon to enhance the setting.)

“Rehearsals for the pageant started in July, the appointed leaders of each episode having enlisted the requisite number of participants. Miss Church, writer-producer-director, drilled the various groups evenings in the auditorium of the town hall. Carrying on from there, group leaders conducted their own rehearsals, perfecting and polishing the action. The ladies of the ballet, fifty strong, flitted through the woods in practice, intent and uninhibited nymphs. Properties were solicited. ‘Anyone having old guns, flax or spinning wheels, or old lanterns, please loan for the pageant.’ Horses, wagons, and a stage coach were lined up. Miss Anna Noetzel, in charge of costumes, distributed patterns and instructions for those to be made at home, and those that were too complicated for local seamstresses were sent for. Singers were rehearsed, and lines were learned. Even the skeptics who said it couldn’t be done were caught up in the fever.”

Mrs. Nettie Hurlin, whose husband Henry was president of Goodell Company, the town’s largest employer, was chosen chairman of the pageant committee. The magnitude of this position must have seemed equal to that of Cecil B. DeMille in producing “The Ten Commandments.” Many thousands of costume pieces were created by the Noetzel sisters, who were originally from Germany, and their nimble-fingered crew. If one were to search the dark, dusty corners of the Antrim Players Costume barn, some pieces would undoubtedly come to light today.

“On Friday, August 12, the village was in gala dress. Main Street was resplendent in flags and bunting. A parade headed by the Antrim band marched to the athletic field

for the track events. Here the youngsters worked off some excess energy and were rewarded with prizes.

At three in the afternoon, the first performance of the pageant was given. For two and a half hours, the audience watched enthralled. Some three thousand spectators attended that afternoon, and on Saturday evening the attendance was said to be in the vicinity of twelve thousand, which may have been an exaggeration. Antrim police, augmented by some extras from Hillsboro and Peterborough plus two state policemen, kept the traffic under control.” (page 295)

“The second performance, under lights on Saturday evening, . . . was by all odds the crowning feature of the three days of celebration. It traced, in a series of tableaux, the history of Antrim from the arrival of the first settlers through the agony of World War I. Philip Riley [the first settler] was played by Fred C. Raleigh, a sixth generation direct descendant.” (Raleigh was also a Main Street entrepreneur, holding forth where Ricky Edmunds keeps the store today.) “As he (Riley) entered on his horse, the silhouettes of the five ships which brought the pioneers to America crossed the skyline of the hill in back, as did a procession of early settlers, with their children, animals, and meager possessions. In the foreground, the fifty ladies of the Dawn Ballet performed their dance, symbolic of the dawn of the new town.” (page 296)

“The grand finale featured five ladies in allegorical guise: Independence, Loyalty, Humanity, Justice, and History. One hundred and eight men representing early settlers, soldiers of the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, the grenadiers, and men who fought in the Civil War and World War I massed around them while the ladies summed up the courage and honor of these ‘Men of Antrim’.

The entire impressive spectacle lasted two hours and a half, and in appreciation of her efforts, Miss Church was presented with bouquets at the conclusion of each performance, and a check for four hundred dollars. Everyone thought she was worth every penny of it.” (page 298)

Sunday the 14th was of course devoted to religious services in keeping with the piety and strong faith of Antrim’s forefathers. This part of the celebration was organized by Mrs. C. Louise Smith, whose grandson Dick Winslow is the editor of the *Limrik*. She and her committee may well have felt upstaged by the grandiosity of the previous



— continued on page 13

SNAKES AND EMPIRE PETS

By Lyman Gilmore

Ever since Arnold, I've loved snakes. Arnold was a four foot boa constrictor our ten year old son Richard kept in his bedroom when we lived in the Poor House up on High Street in the 1960s. (It was called the Poor House because Arthur Poor built it, along with a huge chicken house out back. By the time we moved in Mr. Poor was long gone, and the chicken house was nothing but traces of a thin cement foundation out in the woods. But the "Poor House" name was as right for us as for Arthur Poor because it pretty much described our financial condition at the time.)

Arnold lived in a big plywood box that I built for him, with a heat lamp and screen roof. Arnold seemed to love watching tv with Richard, crawling up his pant leg and peeping out the neck of his shirt. The once-a-month feeding time was a family event. The hamster never knew what hit him. After dinner, Arnold with his tummy bulge would nap pleasantly for three weeks or so.

These nostalgic thoughts came to me recently when I met the lovely snakes at Pelletier's Empire Pets on Main Street across from the library. Ordinarily I do not seek out pet shops, but I did this one when before Christmas my eight year old grandson Gillan kept asking Santa for a Guinea Pig. Santa delivered Snowball on cue—pure white, pink eyed, and content at the foot of happy Gillan's bed—and I was pleased with my purchase and sufficiently enchanted with the pet people that I've returned for several more visits for this little essay. That I am not in the market for a snake just now is no matter because I have come to think of Empire as Antrim's nice little zoo, a sort of local exotic animal empire.

Four thousand brown crickets from Georgia seems like a good place to begin. Ellie Fulton, owner Jane Pelletier's daughter and store manager, explained that she orders 4000 of these bugs each week to feed her lizards and frogs, and for her customers to feed theirs. A cricket has always just been a cricket to me, so I was pleased to learn that the southern brown cricket is the preferred meal for your basic lizard because it has a soft shell, unlike the black cricket with its hard shell. Lizards like to eat when they are very warm, 80 to 105 degree, with 90 degrees being optimal. If your lizard happens to be in New Hampshire in February and is

understandably a little chilly when you feed him a black cricket, he wouldn't be able to digest the bug and it would get stuck in its tummy making him ill. But a cool lizard has no trouble feasting on the softer southern brown crickets.

The Veiled Chameleon is a weird and beautiful beast. Six inches long, it is bright green and deep-chested, with a tall dragon-like crown and a sinuous tail tightly curled above its back. Pleased by my engagement with the brown crickets, Ellie grabbed a small handful from their glass cage behind the counter, and asked me if I'd like to see a lizard at dinner. The Veiled Chameleon was serenely hanging upside down from the screen over its glass, plant-filled tank, apparently oblivious to the outside world, perhaps to any world. Ellie dropped the dozen crickets in among the green leaves. That lizard slowly cocked its regal head slightly to



one side, a degree or two, just enough to draw a bead on a cricket a half a foot away resting on a twig, and faster than shock its incredibly long tongue shot out and that cricket was history, a tender morsel the lizard chewed with leisurely delight. It was hard for me to believe that the lizard's tongue was as long as its body, but it was. Another slight head cock, bang! another gourmet cricket. And wonder of wonders, as he swallowed contentedly, colorful spots appeared all over his body. It was a grand display of the advantages of being higher up the food chain than your neighbors, and of Mother Nature's inexorable ways.

A man and his daughter from Greenfield came in to buy some Zebras, Sharks, Cardinals, and a couple of tank cleaners. Puzzled by these odd names, I followed Ellie to the banks of tanks along one side and the rear of the shop where I got another lesson, this time in tropical fish. The Sharks did not resemble the sand sharks we used to catch fishing for flounder off Cape Cod. In fact these

sleek little fish live in fresh water streams in South America, while other of their more than one hundred fish species come from far away places such as estuaries in Sri Lanka and Lake Tanganyika in Africa. I pretty much guessed the colors of Zebras and Cardinals, but I was mystified when Ellie netted some two inch long suckers. These were the "tank cleaners" that literally suck algae and other mess from the inside of the glass aquariums. Noticing some lovely and familiar goldfish, I learned that these are Comets or "feeder fish," breakfast for the larger and cannibal Oscars.

How does one get into this business, I wondered aloud to Jane Pelletier. She had been working at Sylvania in Hillsborough when an elderly co-worker with crippling arthritis gave her a tiny finch she could no longer care for. Jane and her husband owned a small farm with lots of animals, including thousands of rabbits they raised for sale as meat. ("Those rabbits paid off the mortgage!") They grew to love the little bird and decided to get it a mate, which they did, beginning a finch family. One pet led to another, and soon Jane left Sylvania to open a shop in Hillsborough, and then a couple years later, in Antrim. Now, in addition to the 4000 brown crickets, they sell three or four hundred tropical fish each week, along with the occasional fuzzy tarantula, pythons (a handsome, narrow fellow in the glass case was molting during my visit), lizards, including Flying Geckos and that impressively tongued Veiled Chameleon, frogs, and furry little creatures like hamsters, mice, and that sweet Snowball the guinea pig. And of course, all manner of pet foods.

Having read about the illegal trade in animals captured in the wild, I was comforted when Ellie explained that all her tropical snakes and lizards are bred in captivity in Florida. She buys from a dealer who raises the reptiles and guarantees that they are healthy and free from parasites that often plague these creatures.

If you visit you may meet Ellie's three year old son Darin who can give you a mini-lecture on the care and feeding of fish, and possibly an AES teacher with her class in tow mesmerized by the wonderful animals so foreign to these northern climes. Ellie and Jane exude welcome and enthusiasm, and if you are like me, you will be pleasantly impressed with their acute knowledge and ready willingness to explain their fascinating animal empire. ♣

A REAL NEW ENGLAND CHRISTMAS

AN APPRECIATION

By Janet MacLachlan

I really felt sorry for the townspeople who missed the outstanding Antrim Player's production "A Real New England Christmas" in the Town Hall in December. It was graciously presented as a free gift to the people of Antrim by the Antrim Players and all three performances were filled to capacity.

The opening number set the tone for the evening. It was entitled "Joy" and was sung by an ensemble made up of Antrim Players, Conval High School Chorus, local church choir members, and local children. The enthusiasm of the singers was a delight to behold and to hear. All those happy faces! There were amusing songs like "I'm Getting Nuttin' for Christmas" sung by Anthony Corliss, and "Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer" sung by the ensemble. Old familiar seasonal pieces were included as well as some unfamiliar but lovely ones that had not been heard for many years. An original song, written by Izi Nichols was sung by the Players, recalling a Real New England Christmas.

As a change of pace, Rene Blinn's graceful Northern Lights dancers performed a beautiful interlude of interpretive dance to the music of the Pachelbel Canon.

Of course it would not have been a Christmas program without "Winter Wonderland" and "White Christmas" and little girls singing "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus".

All this was under the direction of Ray Sweeney, Director of Music at Conval High School. His skill and expertise brought together the various groups, our friends and neighbors in some cases, and created a warm and joyous evening of celebration of the season. The Antrim Players have given us many wonderful evenings, performing plays and musical revues. This was one of their best and made the audience appreciate how fortunate we all are to have such a professional organization in our town.

Thanks to the Antrim Players from all of us. ♣

School Board *continued*

our new teachers contract. This was a three-year agreement, with a provision to pay a retroactive amount totaling \$1.044 million. This figure is important because of an administrative dispute with the New Hampshire Department of Revenue that was just recently resolved. This amount was NOT included in the tax rates set by the Towns last year and was therefore NOT collected by the towns. In order to fulfill the will and intent of the voters, this amount was indeed paid to the teachers, but still needs to be raised by the Towns. The DRA has resolved this issue by proposing that the School District include this amount in not only our proposed budget for this year, but also our default budget, should the proposed budget not pass in March. While this seems like an inelegant approach, it allows the school district to go forward with a budget previously approved by voters.

BOND

The other major contribution to the increases stems from the building and renovation projects, which come to closure with the completion of the Antrim Elementary School and the Antrim Memorial Gymnasium this spring. Our district-wide facilities have now all received a substantial investment by the voters so that these buildings can be used to the utmost limit of their usefulness for many years to come.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Much of the Special Education increases are due to court ordered out of district placements or mandated services.

We realize that we have to balance the level of services and programs needed for a quality education for our students with how much taxpayers should be expected to pay. Fiscal responsibility is mandated every year. We will continue to look for ways to cut costs, but we believe we are providing what our students need. A more detailed account of the budget and what is happening in our schools can be found in the Contoocook Valley School District Annual Report which are available at Town Hall. Please vote in support of this year's budget.

The bottom line of all that the School Board does supports the education of our children. We had the opportunity to visit AES at one of their Friday morning assemblies. Every class had students report on

some of their classroom activities. The behavior of the students was respectful and attentive to one another and it was evident that they were fully engaged in the learning occurring in their classrooms and were eager to share their experiences. The work of our teachers to encourage and nurture the abilities of every child deserves our support. The work going on in all schools deserves our support.

Remember to check the Conval website at www.conval.edu for more information about the schools. You can contact Denise Holmes at her new phone number 588-3098 or at d_holmes@conknet.com. Rich Morel can be reached at 588-3326 or at morel@mcttelecom.com.

Please remember to vote on March 11.



FOLK TALES

WHO IS A SOLDIER?

By Fred Roberts

Having drawn liberty from Camp Pendleton, USMC, for the New Year's weekend, I decided to go visit my cousin in Los Angeles. I also wished to see the Rose Parade in Pasadena up close. So, armed with lawn chairs, my cousin and I left for the parade route and secured a curbside location which we were informed was about an hour from the start.

At about eight o'clock we could hear in the distance the first of many bands and soon the parade was upon us with all the sounds and colors, floats and flowers that make the Rose Parade the super spectacle that it is.

Because it was a sunny but cool day I wore my Marine Corps uniform. About half of the parade had gone by when two horses with their riders came along. The ever popular duo Roy Rogers and Dale Evans were approaching. Roy dismounted and had his faithful horse Trigger do a couple of tricks for the crowd's pleasure.

Then Dale and Roy started working the crowds on both sides of the street, shaking hands. I happened to be on Roy's side and as he came along he shook my hand and said "Welcome Soldier" and went on his way. I said to myself "I guess he doesn't know the difference between a soldier and a Marine". Just then Roy stopped, turned Trigger around, came back to me, shook my hand again and said, "You aren't a soldier, you're a Marine. Welcome again", and went on his way. ♣

LOST LOON CAFE'

By Peter Moore

While Hillsborough may still have their "pride", Antrim has gained from one of that town's losses—the Lost Loon Café that is. Recently re-opening in the long-vacant Antrim Café building, next to Edmund's Hardware Store, the Lost Loon Café more than fills the need for a basic breakfast haunt in our downtown, and way-exceeded the expectations of this correspondent's simple A.M. palate. But before you chance to salivate, let me fill you in on the personality behind my penchant for the new pride of our Main Street.

Owner, operator, and inspiration of the Lost Loon Café is "Chef" Aaron Zipper. No "short-order cook" is he—Aaron trained and graduated Cum Laude from the College of Culinary Arts at Johnson & Wales University in Providence, Rhode Island, and honed his discipline in Chef's positions at various levels in finer dining establishments in Colorado and New Jersey. As such, the food fare is, how should I say, somewhat unique in common café terms but covers a spectrum of taste and delight that will please the simplest to the most severe critic amongst us.

Chef Aaron says:

"My menu items are prepared from scratch and cooked to order with quality, freshness, flavor, and presentation a top priority. In a world with ever increasing demand for quickness and convenience, I am striving to preserve the need for and availability of professional Chefs, and a quality dining experience. My breakfast menu ranges from comfort food such as pancakes and eggs with home-fries and toast, to more extravagant offerings such as a variety of Eggs Benedict and stuffed French Toast. Items such as the Lox & Bagel Platter, and Omelet Oscar (crabmeat, asparagus, and Hollandaise) offer a more metropolitan flair, while homemade corned beef hash and eggs, biscuits with sausage gravy, and chicken-fried steak and eggs offer more of that country feel."

Now the words and the tastes of my mouth can only reinforce what the Chef has expressed. I experienced the Banana Walnut Stuffed French Toast (made with Challah Bread from German John's bakery) and adorned with real whipped cream, sliced fruit, and Crane Farm Maple Syrup. Then I opted for a side of the home-made corned

beef hash! All I can say is—give me more—but not for another week or so! Hmmmmm, or shall I have the Eggs Reuben; poached eggs, corned beef and Swiss cheese on English muffins, topped with Dijon Hollandaise, and a side dish of Sauerkraut—or will it be the River Run Omelet with smoked Salmon, red onions, cream cheese and scallions? Decisions, diversions! Its a good thing the Lost Loon is open for lunch too (and may soon serve light dinners on Thursday through Saturday evenings).

But for now, we'll have to settle for Tuesday-Friday, 6 AM - 2:30 PM, Saturdays opening at 7 AM, and Sunday 8 AM - 1 PM (the Chef, and cohorts Pam Cleary and Donny Dorval, need their weekend sleep too, you know).

And—if you're only looking for the best cup of brewed coffee in Antrim (from White Mountain Coffee Roasters), and a truly comfortable, friendly place to settle down and enjoy it (and you can live better without "the donut") the Lost Loon Café is your kind of place—believe me. ♣

ANNUAL ICICLE CONTEST

Winning Antrim's annual icicle contest is BIG!—akin to winning a Hollywood Oscar.

Since hardly anyone knows about this contest, hardly anyone enters it. However, the contest's proprietress and sole judge has identified this year's winner; it is a home on Gregg Lake Road so festooned with huge icicles that the house itself can no longer be seen. We assume that the owners of this house can easily file claims for damage (severe interior leakage, broken shingles, etc.) since they own their own insurance company. In fact, the contest's proprietress is considering, for future contests, limiting entries to people who *do* own their own insurance companies.

As we said, the contest is BIG! This year's winner received a brand new Toyota "hybrid" car, one that uses both gas and electric power. When we asked the contest's proprietress why she gave the hybrid car as a prize, (it is, by the way, Antrim's first) she mentioned that, since it uses only a small amount of gas, it does not pollute the atmosphere the way other cars do. "But isn't this an awfully big prize for an icicle contest?" we asked—to which she replied, "Well what did you expect me to give the winner? A snowmobile?" ♣

THOUGHTS ABOUT THE TUTTLE LIBRARY

By Kathy Chisholm, Librarian
and Sharon Dowling, Trustee

"Whatever the cost of our libraries, the price is cheap compared to that of an ignorant nation."
— Walter Cronkite

Where can the citizens of Antrim go—regardless of age, sex, race, religion, economic status, or any other consideration—to find lifelong learning opportunities; access to current newspapers and magazines; help in looking for a job or resources to help solve a family crisis; borrow a video for a week; get free tax help or file on-line; locate ancestors in Italy; e-mail relatives in Iowa; find large print books or audio books for those visually challenged (or long-distance commuters); or have access to books and other material from anywhere in the state, or possibly the world? Where do our children get help to write a research paper if it is after 4 PM and the school is closed? Where in Antrim can you find items of historical significance, photo displays from years past or just this summer; programs for pre-schoolers or post graduates; the latest best-seller by Danielle Steel, the last best-seller by Jane Austen or a copy of the Koran? Where in Antrim can your 12 year-old meet a friend after school in safety and do that "group project" together, while her grandmother reads the "Senior Focus" schedule in the local paper?

Of course, the answer to all those questions and many more is—the Tuttle Library, your library! It is open every day of the week except Sunday, and comes equipped with a professional staff which does much more than check out and shelve books—because the Tuttle Library is much more than a warehouse for books and periodicals. Our circulation has increased every year; our school visits have increased every year; and outreach to homeschoolers and private school students is an ongoing service. Whether it is dealing with research questions for a graduate degree, borrowing books from around the country for someone writing a doctoral dissertation, masters thesis or college paper, or developing and implementing a rotating collection of children's books to share with The Grapevine, the Tuttle Li-

↳ — continued on page 15

A RETURN TO BALI

By Ruth and Rod Zwirner

Some 31 years ago, Ruth and Rod Zwirner did Peace Corps service in South-east Asia—in fact, were married there. They recently went back there with their oldest son for a six-week visit. Their itinerary included stops in Hanoi, Bangkok, Kuching (Sarawak, East Malaysia), Bali, Belaga (Sarawak), Phnom Pehn, Kota Kinabalu, Brunei, Singapore, and Penang. In this article, they write about their week in Bali.

Many of you may remember hearing about a terrorist bombing in a nightclub on the Indonesian island of Bali on October 12, 2002. It was truly their 9/11. We were there just three weeks after the tragedy. There were travel advisories out about most of the places we were going to, but especially Bali. Actually, it was easier to say “lets go” to Bali because Rod had been there after the anti-communist riots in 1965 and we had been there in 1970. The Balinese are known to be peaceful, and surely outside agitators would be quickly cleared out. A purpose of our trip was to show our son where we met and got married and to visit/revisit some well known places. (Bali is just off the eastern tip of Java, southeast of Singapore and south of Borneo where we worked in the Peace Corps.)

What makes Bali so interesting? If you read the tourist hype you know it is marketed as a tropical paradise; it is even inferred to be the Bali Hai of the movie “South Pacific”. The climate, while hot, can be ameliorated by being on beaches or up on the volcano slopes as well as by air conditioning. The unique Hindu culture assumed prominence in the 15th century when priests and followers fled from Java with the spread of the Muslim culture. The Dutch colonized the area after 1900 as did the Japanese during World War II. Bali became part of Indonesia in 1949.

The resulting traditional society carries on a complex lifestyle that strives to balance the forces of good and evil. Music, dance, carving, and painting are all inspired by Hindu epics, family and life. There are examples of this reverence and beauty everywhere. Ceremonies can be found everyday. In addition to local ceremonies, troupes of Balinese dancers and gamelan orchestras perform there and travel the world.

The rich volcanic soils are found on the slopes of three volcanoes. There are beautiful padi (rice) terraces with irrigation canals weaving across the countryside. As the population approached 2 million, tourism seemed necessary to support the lifestyle that had developed. A new service economy developed, flourishing with foreign money from visitors. (Bali is just 3 hours by plane from Perth, Australia.) Whole villages that were dedicated to woodcarving, stone carving, jewelry making, kite making, and dancing are common, pouring out numerous inexpensive items. The culture over the years really has become dependent on tourism, catering to tourist desires to purchase things and to party on this island of beautiful beaches, do ‘watersports’ (scuba, snorkel, glassbottom boat, parasail, jetski) and go to nightclubs. In our view and in one Balinese artist’s view, many had prostituted themselves and their culture in our world economy.

With the October 12th bombing, Bali’s economy has collapsed. Even while we were there shops were closing early or were completely closed. Restaurants were empty. Racks of clothing and tourist stuff were everywhere but no one was even looking to buy. There were surfboards on beaches which no one was using. Cyber (internet) cafe’s were empty. Carvings were offered for very little money. It was a depressing situation.

As we left, there were ceremonies to cleanse the island and pay homage to those who had died but it will be a long time before the free-spending tourists return. Even though Bali is unique and beautiful, it has experienced some lessons on the promises and dangers of rapid economic globalization. As one Balinese wrote after the bombing and in the interest of ‘unity with diversity’. “...we must have a concept of harmonious balance. The balance between God and humanity, humanity with itself and with the environment...places us all in a universe of common understanding...everybody in the world is of one principle brotherhood. You are me and I am you...thank you for your love and compassion.” ♣

NOT OUT OF THE ANTRIM WOODS YET

By Peter Moore

At last report the Antrim Woods project was anxiously awaiting the decision of the Land & Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) on a \$60,000 grant to help purchase 58 acres between West Street and Clinton Road, to be protected and utilized as a Town Forest. Unfortunately in late December our group received disappointing news from the LCHIP Board that our grant request was not selected for funding in Round 4. As Rachel Rouillard, Executive Director of LCHIP put it in her letter, “...LCHIP has a limited amount of funding available to provide for projects protecting the natural, cultural and historic resources of New Hampshire. While your proposal was competitive, the Board was unable to provide funding because of the high number of outstanding projects that have applied in this round.”

While the Conservation Commission and the Antrim Woods Planning Group were somewhat frustrated by this turn of events, we are enthusiastically unanimous in our resolve to see this important, strategic and irreplaceable natural and cultural resource protected some how, some way. This continued effort will require that we role up our sleeves for fundraising activities, and we ask for your support to help us meet this goal. While we are investigating other grants and financial resource opportunities to add to the nearly \$80,000 we have secured so far, our efforts to acquire this land will require that we raise another \$76,000 by the end of December 2003. And, while the land owner has indicated he is still willing to work with us on the “bargain sale” agreement made over a year-and-a-half ago, he is anxious to sell the property to whomever, the Antrim Woods Project notwithstanding, as he has no formal obligation to our purchase of the land.

The first day of Spring will see a renewed effort in our Antrim Woods fundraising efforts. On the evening of March 22nd, the Saturday following the vernal equinox, we celebrate this effort with our second free concert at the Town Hall. If you missed the first one this past January you won’t want to miss this new mix and returning mix of home-grown musical talent. Come help us kick-off the second half of our fund raising drive to save the Antrim Woods, and share the spirit, gratification and fun of something really worthwhile for our town. ♣



ABOUT TOWN

GIRL SCOUTS

By Sharon Dowling, Leader

CADETTE TROOP 2706

Greetings! Since our last report, the Cadette Girl Scouts pulled together a Thanksgiving basket for a needy family in town. Thank you to Wayno's for the generous donation of the fresh turkey, and to Pastors Charlie and Cheryl Boucher for handling the selection and final delivery for us. In December we began work on one of our "interest" patches with a visit from Mr. Sato from Japan who taught us several origami designs and spoke of the importance of origami and the arts in Japanese education. The scouts plan to teach a Junior troop some of these designs as part of the Service Project requirement for the badge.

GIRL SCOUT COOKIES

January was Girl Scout Cookie selling time. All the orders have been turned in, but most troops end up with extra boxes and/or plan cookie booth sales. If no one approached you to pre-order cookies, do not despair! I am quite sure your cookie cravings can be solved after March 1st. (That is when the big truck arrives in town and cookie deliveries begin!) We also began work on the Pets interest badge.

SPORTS FOR LIFE

February 1st saw the scouts and their leaders heading to Hampshire Hills in

Milford to participate in the "Sports for Life" lock-in. This was an overnight-all night experience with Cadette scouts from all over the state to attend seminars on martial arts, physical therapy, professional sports, yoga, exercise technology and stretching for health. The staff from the facility handled all the seminars until 9 PM—the leaders were free until then to relax, have a one hour yoga session, and visit with other troop leaders. After 9 PM the girls were allowed the use of most of the facility, including the pools, courts, rock climbing wall and track. All agreed it was an awesome and fun experience. Did I mention the pizza dinner and the hot tub? Definitely a good time was had by all!

SUMMER CAMPS

Summer camp registration starts in the middle of February. Girl Scout camps are open to ALL girls, even if not previously registered as a Scout or belonging to a troop. If you think your daughter might be interested in some of the amazing day camps, resident camps, or "quick trips" available through Swift Water Council you should be able to get information from any troop leader. Feel free to contact me on this, or any questions or comments you might have about our troop and the activities we are planning. Cadettes Rock!

SPECTRUM ART ASSOCIATION

AREA ARTISTS INVITED

About two years ago Russ Russell, a local artist, decided that he wanted to teach a drawing class. He had had requests for such a class from some local people. After talking with the Presbyterian minister, the church agreed to sponsor such a class. Russ was given permission to use a room in the church for the class. He started with six students and they worked there for a year.

After that time his students wanted to move beyond drawing to working with color. It seemed that the least expensive, safest medium to work with was pastel. But, there was a problem. This could get messy. So it was decided to move the class from the church to Russ' studio, The Old Slaughterbarn, on West Street.

For two years the group met at the Slaughterbarn, gaining skills in the use of pastels and being entertained by Russ' jokes. A studio is supposed to be messy, so the studio and pastels mixed well. Last year they had an art show at the Maplehurst Inn. But now there was a new problem: it was a cold winter and Russ just couldn't heat the studio. So the group voted to move to 48 Main Street, the site of the old cell phone store, opposite the Tuttle Library.

The students decided to call themselves The Spectrum Art Association. The aim of the group became larger than a class. They decided to provide space for area artists to work along with the class. Artists love company and can learn from each other. There is still space available. If interested call Russ at 588-2843. The group plans to show their work and possibly plan future art shows.

— Russ Russell

THE NURSE IS IN

Home Healthcare, Hospice and Community Services is offering a free "Nurse Is In" clinic at Antrim Village on March 25th from 11 AM to 12 NOON. At the clinic the nurse will check blood pressure and answer questions about cholesterol, high blood pressure, lyme disease, heat stroke, etc. For more information, phone 800-541-4145. ♣

THE LIMRIK AND THE TUTTLE LIBRARY

The Tuttle Library has for several years been a key drop-off place for Limrik articles. Articles can even be left there when the library is closed—through the Book Return Drop (clearly marked for the Limrik). The Limrik is most grateful to the Tuttle Library for this very helpful service. ♣



DOG REGISTRATION

Don't forget that you must register your dog in April! Be sure to bring a rabies vaccination certificate when you go to register with Town Clerk Marita Hammond. ♣



CHURCH NEWS



Nellie M. Thornton *continued*

Antrim Presbyterian Church

Rev. Peggi Kephart Boyce
588-2209

Sunday Worship 10:30 AM

(nursery available for 4-year-olds and under)

Sunday School 10:30 AM

(K-4th grade during worship service)

Youth Ministry 11:45 AM

(5th graders and up)

AA Meeting 7 PM (Every Sunday)

Mar 5 Ash Wednesday Service 7 PM

This service will include the imposition of ashes and the Lord's Supper. All are welcome!

Mar 5, 12, 19, 26 and Apr 2, 9 12-1 PM

Lenten Luncheons at the Baptist Church. Bring a bag lunch, dessert and beverage will be provided. Speakers will be area clergy.

April 6 Installation 3 PM The Presbytery of Northern New England will install the Rev. Peggi K. Boyce as the Pastor for the First Presbyterian Church, Antrim. Everyone in the community is invited to join us for this joyous occasion.

Apr 13 Palm Sunday Worship 10:30 AM

Apr 17 Maundy Thursday Worship 7 PM (includes the Lord's Supper)

Apr 20 Easter Sunday Community Sunrise Service 6:30 AM Baptist Church lawn

Apr 20 Easter Sunday Worship 10:30 AM

May 3 May Breakfast 7-9:30 AM

Antrim Antrim Church of Christ

Pastor Lawrence Warren
588-3491

Sunday Schedule

Bible Study 10:00 AM

Worship 11:00 AM

Bible Study Ladies 7 PM Tuesdays

(NOTE: There no longer is a clothing shop and food pantry.)

Saint Patrick Church

Rev. Richard A. Smith
588-2180

Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:15 PM

Sunday 8 & 10:30 AM

Mon-Fri 7:30 AM

Penance 1/2 hour before all weekend masses and by request.

Baptist Church

Pastor Charles V. Boucher
Cherryl Boucher, Associate Pastor
588-6614

Worship 10:30 AM

(Nursery and junior church provided)

Mar 5, 12, 19, 26 and April 2, 9 12-1 PM

Lenten Luncheons Bring a bag lunch, dessert and beverage will be provided. Speakers will be area clergy.

Mar 29 Spaghetti Dinner 5-7 PM

Adults \$6, children 5-12 \$4, family maximum of \$20. All proceeds go to support "World Vision".

Apr 17 Maundy Thursday 7 PM

A drama recreation of The Last Supper

Apr 20 Easter Sunday Community Sunrise Service 6:30 AM

Baptist Church lawn—Rev Peggi Boyce officiating.

Apr 20 Easter Service 10:30 AM

May 10 Mother/Daughter Banquet 6:30 PM (Call 588-6614 for reservations and information.)



CHILDREN'S LITERACY FOUNDATION GRANT

The James A. Tuttle Library was recently awarded a grant (proposal written by Kathy Chisholm, Library Director) of \$1300 worth of grades K-6 children's books (about 70-80 books) by the Children's Literacy Foundation. CLiF is a non-profit organization dedicated to nurturing a love of reading among children throughout New Hampshire and Vermont. CLiF supports children's literacy by awarding sponsorships to small, rural public libraries that serve children who have limited access to great books.

"The local public library is the primary source of books for thousands of children who live in rural communities. Unfortunately, due to shrinking budgets and rising book costs...many children do not encounter the great books that would fire their imaginations and inspire them to become great readers." (www.clifonline.org)

CLiF volunteers will deliver the books and make a special presentation to Antrim's children at the Tuttle Library. ♣

She was known for her involvement in church and civic organizations. She organized the first PTA in Antrim and was a founding member of the Antrim Players, enjoying honorary membership in her later years.

In 1925 she married John Thornton and, following his death in 1971, lived independently until age 98. Her love of travel took her to many places—the 1939 World's Fair in New York, Bermuda for snorkeling, the Colorado Rockies, Cuba and Nova Scotia. She took two trips to Japan when she was in her 90s.

Her loved ones remember her hats, her joy in playing her beloved piano, and teasing her about her "Eat Dessert First" motto.

She is survived by her daughters Mary Ellen Cutter of Antrim and Betsey Olson of Stoddard, seven grandchildren and fourteen great grandchildren.

WHO NOW GETS THE CANE?

The Antrim Historical Society is now looking for the town's oldest citizen to become Nelly's heir to the Boston Post Gold-headed Cane. This symbol of honor was first awarded in 1909 to the Reverend William Hurlin, and has been passed down from one oldest citizen to the next for over 90 years. Please contact Izi Nichols at 588-6581 with any information as to who may be next in line.



ALL ABOUT WOODEN CLOCKS

At the Presbyterian Church on Sunday, April 6, at 2 PM, the Antrim Historical Society will hold an open meeting of particular interest to clock enthusiasts. Boy Scout Thomas Johnson of Henniker chose for his Eagle Scout project the life and accomplishments of Jess Emory, an 18th century Henniker clockmaker, and will share his findings with the meeting.

Tom has built a 30-hour movement clock as part of his project, and in researching Emory's life and craftsmanship he found that Emory had been known as the best wooden clockmaker in the nation at that time. The program will be of interest to clock collectors as well as to Boy Scouts who are looking forward to someday reaching the rank of Eagle Scout. All are cordially invited. ♣

**PARKSIDE GALLERY
ANTIQUES****PROGRAMS**

- **1st Friday** of each month **2 PM**
Homeschool Support Group
- **Last Sunday** of each month **2 PM**
Genealogy Discussion Group
- **Mar 1 Seed Starting Workshop 11 AM**
for kids and adults with Master Gardener
Mary Wardman
- **Mar 14 Finding Yesterday 2 PM**
How to write poetry with Nancy Paquin
- **Apr** (all month) *Youth Poetry Challenge*
- **Apr 5 Gardening with Kids 11 AM**
for kids and adults with Master Gardener
Mary Wardman
- **May 3 Poet's Tea 11 AM** for children and
their parents
- **May 24 Garden Planning 7 PM** with
Master Gardener Mary Wardman

YOUTH POETRY CHALLENGE

National Poetry Month is the inspiration behind our month-long Youth Poetry Challenge in April. Not a contest, this challenge is an opportunity for kids to explore expression in poetry form. Children are encouraged to write and submit their poems to be published in our 5th Annual Youth Poetry Challenge booklet. All submissions will be published. A Poet's Tea will be held on Saturday, May 3rd at 11 AM to celebrate our young poets with an opportunity to share readings and refreshments.

ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT

Special thanks go to those who shared their art and photography for our December-January exhibit. We appreciate your willingness to display your creative works.

HOLIDAYS

The Library will be closed on Monday May 26 Memorial Day.

NEW BOOKS: FICTION

Maeve Binchy *Quentins*; Sandra Brown *The Crush*; Michael Crichton *Prey*; Michael Cunningham *The Hours*; Louise Erdrich *The Master Butcher's Singing Club*; Linda Fairstein *The Bone Vault*; Ken Follett *Hornet Flight*; John Grisham *King of Torts*; Dean Koontz *By the Light of the Moon*; Robert Ludlum *The Janson Directive*; Joyce Maynard *The Usual Rules*; Fern Michaels *Late Bloomer*; James Patterson *Four Blind Mice*; Annie Proulx *That Old Ace in the Hole*; Anne Rice *Blackwood Farm*; Nora Roberts *Chesapeake Blue*; Nora Roberts *Face the Fire*; Danielle Steel *Answered Prayers*.

NON-FICTION

Stephen Ambrose *To America*; Tom Brokaw *A Long Way from Home* (biography); Mary Higgins Clark *Kitchen Privileges* (biography); Miklowitz *The Bipolar Disorder Survival Guide*; Schwartz *The Two Faces of Islam*.

MYSTERIES

Nevada Barr *Flashback*; M.C. Beaton *Death of a Village*; Lillian Jackson Braun *The Cat Who Brought Down the House*; Michael Connelly *Chasing the Dime*; Jonathan Kellerman *The Murder Book*; Archer Mayor *The Sniper's Wife*; Anne Perry *Seven Dials*; Margaret Truman *Murder at Ford's Theatre*; Margaret Yorke *Cause for Concern*.

DID YOU KNOW THAT...*

- Libraries provide services to 97% of the US population.
- Library visits increased 17% in the last 5 years.
- There were more than 1.14 billion visits to public libraries in the year 2000.
- Americans go to libraries (school, public and academic) more than twice as often as they go to the movies.
- Reference librarians answer more than 7 million questions a week.
- Federal spending on libraries annually is only 54¢ per person.
- There are more public libraries than McDonald's restaurants.
- Americans borrow an average of more than 6 books per year.
- Antrim residents borrow an average of more than 9 books per year.
- Americans spend \$25.25 a year for libraries—48¢ per week (less than the average cost of a local newspaper).
- 46% of Americans *do not* have access to the Internet at home.
- 51% of adult library computer users have an annual household income of \$25,000.
- In the year 2000, nearly 100,000 computers were available in US libraries for public use.
- Among the poorest adult library computer users (household income below \$15,000) 30% said that their public library provides their only access to computers and 37% said that their public library provides their only access to the internet.

* Statistics provided courtesy of the American Library Association and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. ♣

Antrim's most noticeable antiques store is actually in the North Branch. Right on Route 9, the one with a stage coach out in front of a large, handsome Federal-style colonial building. It's called Parkside Gallery.

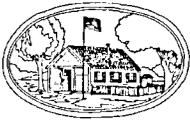
The building itself, some 200 years old, has had many names. Tuttle House; it was built by Jacob and Betsey Tuttle, grandparents of James A. Tuttle of Antrim Library fame. It has since been, variously, a residence, an inn, a tavern, a restaurant and an antiques shop with such names as Barrett's, Hillside House, Cadillac Inn, Smithholm, David's, Hawthorne Inn, Franklin Pierce Inn and Backward Look Antiques.

Parkside Gallery, previously an antiques shop in Hillsboro, moved to Tuttle House two years ago when Larry and Marcia Leizure purchased it from Bob and Gaye McNeil who, for 16 years, had operated Backward Look Antiques there. The Leizures, along with operating the antiques business, are in the process of restoring the historic building—repairing walls and ceilings, refinishing floors, opening up some of the seven fireplaces, restoring 12-over-12 window sashes, building a string of horse sheds, and possibly making a blacksmith shop.

Winter hours are from 10:30 AM to 5 PM Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. ♣

**ORIGIN OF THE HANDSHAKE**

Back in medieval times, no one trusted each other. Everyone was a potential enemy. When two people approached they would stick out their hands to each other to show the stranger they were not carrying a weapon. Both strangers were put at ease knowing that they were not about to be killed. This action of outstretched hands grew and evolved to the modern gesture we know as the handshake. ♣



GREAT BROOK SCHOOL NEWS

By Barbara Black



ON THIS SAME LAND—JOURNEY THROUGH TIME

By Jenna Davis, 5th Grade

Three fifth grade classes participated in the play "On This Same Land—Journey Through Time". The classes were Mrs. Shea's class, Mrs. Bundy's class, and Mrs. Pietrovito's class. These classes completed research for the play on the Industrial Revolution, the Glacial Period, Abenaki Life, and last but not least, the Colonial Period. This play is about three children that travel back in time and learn about these different times in history. The play was presented at Hancock Elementary School and the Antrim Town Hall. The stage setting was felt hangings that were made by the students.

Paula Aarons from Keene was the director of the play. Paula taught students a *say-ing* to help them to move their mouths and speak clearly. Beth Frost who teaches at the Hancock Depot also helped out, especially with the felting. All the students had the best time of their lives performing the play.

AN OLYMPIC EXPERIENCE

By Bess Slamin, 5th Grade

On Monday, February 3rd, Tuesday the 4th, and Wednesday the 5th, I was privileged to be a junior coach at the Special Olympics at Waterville Valley Ski Resort. On the Saturday before we left, I packed every piece of warm clothing I had.

During the Winter Olympics, the sports someone can compete in are snowboarding, snowshoeing, skiing, floor hockey, and ice skating. I interviewed Samantha Lehtonen, a 13 year old snowboarder who "likes getting hurt." This is Samantha's second year at Special Olympics and her first year snowboarding.

Special Olympics is open to children and adults from 10 to 10,000. It was started in the early 1960's by Eunice Kennedy Shriver when she started a day camp for people with mental challenges. Mrs. Shriver saw how much the campers enjoyed playing sports and so she decided to create a program that would give them some exercise they needed and still make them feel good.

Just in case anybody's wondering, the winter is not the only time Special Olym-

pics goes on. There are also ones in spring and summer. Inbetween these times there are tournaments.

One thing that's cool about Special Olympics is that just like the normal Olympics there are national Special Olympics every four years. This year they will be in Dublin, Ireland.

From my experience I truly believe that the Special Olympics are a great thing, and I feel extremely lucky to have been able to go. I hope I can go again next year.

PLANETARIUM

By Beki Dawson, 5th Grade

Stars flying
Moons soaring
Watching movies
When they're done
Doing science
How much fun!

PLAY BALL!!

Once again, Great Brook dancers will be part of the music and dance extravaganza sponsored by the New Hampshire Dance Institute at Keene State College over the Memorial Day weekend. Boys and girls in grades five through eight have been practicing each Friday morning in the GBS gymnasium. Great Brookers will be featured in both a first and second act dance number of their own as well as join the ensemble numbers for each act.

Two hundred and fifty dancers from area schools will combine their individual numbers for the first time on the stage at the Redfern Arts Center the last week in May. A live orchestra will provide a background of "baseball music" both original and old favorites for the dancers.

Colorful costumes, outstanding music, and talented dancers promise a performance to be remembered. Call the box office at Keene State college for performance times and ticket information.

FAMILY TIES

Students in Anne Kenney's and Barbara Black's classes are looking for people with pictures, stories, and memorabilia of Hancock throughout the twentieth century.

Students have been studying historic and current maps and early Hancock history in preparation for their in-depth look at Hancock's growth from 1896 through 2000.

Photographer Patrick O'Rourke has been working with small groups of students to prepare them for the photojournalism part of their project. In March and April students will interview local residents who have first-hand memories or family stories to tell. The photographs and stories will be compiled by students into a book to show the changes in Hancock over the past century.

This project is made possible by generous grants from the National Geographic Education Foundation and the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation Walker Fund.

If you or family members have stories to tell of Hancock people and events or have old family photographs, please call Mrs. Kenney or Ms. Black at Great Brook School 588-6630. Students would love to include your memories in their book. ♣

Sesquicentennial *continued*

performances, and indeed the huge cast of the pageant was probably not fit for much participation in the later events.

Dorothy Ellison concludes on page 299: "As impressive as the whole celebration was, the crowning achievement may have been the feeling of unity it promoted in the town. Working together for a common goal, with rivalries and petty jealousies put aside, all the townspeople produced an outstanding public ceremony of which they could justly be proud."

Souvenir postcards of the occasion showing the impressive background for the pageant and all 400 cast members in full costume were produced by local photographer Erwin D. Putnam, whose grandchildren Stanley Dutton and Sandra Brooks are area residents. Many of these sturdy photos have been carefully preserved and passed down through families and will provide a visual account of one of Antrim's largest, in terms of manpower, accomplishments, for years to come. Mr. Putnam surely created an historical treasure. ♣

THE GRAPEVINE

By Kristen Vance, Director and Michelle Worthington, Program Coordinator

Residents of Antrim, Bennington, Frankestown and Hancock are working with The Grapevine on a project to improve the ways in which our community responds to the basic needs of people in our towns, from health insurance to transportation to services for elders, and more. The planning for this project, called Grapevine Rural Access to Health and Human Services, is funded by Endowment for Health.

The plan at this stage is for the 4-town steering group to organize a "Community Health Profile," similar to the Community Profile held in Antrim a few years back. One objective of the Profile is to determine the community's role in caring for its citizens. Another is to set local health and human services priorities that will improve the well-being of people our the community.

While the steering group moves forward with plans for the Profile, The Grapevine is working with State agencies to provide access to their services in our town. Currently, residents seeking Healthy Kids insurance, temporary financial assistance, respite care and many other basic services have to travel to Keene or Concord or Manchester for help. Many are unaware of the multitude of services available from the State of NH, and consequently go without. In the case of children's insurance, this often means that children do not have preventive health care.

Those who would like to learn more about this project are encouraged to call Kristen Vance at The Grapevine.

OUT-OF-SCHOOL-TIME AT THE GRAPEVINE FALL 2003 PRE-REGISTRATION

Parents with children who will be students at Antrim Elementary or The Pierce School in the fall may call The Grapevine now to pre-register for the 2003/2004 school year. No deposit is required to pre-register.

The program offers before and after school care and enrichment, and includes a nutritious breakfast and afternoon snack, homework help, games and outdoor activities. The fee for morning sessions, from 6:30 AM to bus pick-up, is \$6. Afternoon sessions run from bus drop-off to 5:30 PM, at a cost

of \$7. Families may sign up for full or partial weeks. If a minimum of 10 children need care during school recesses, the program will provide that as well.

COMMUNITY WOOD BANK

This was a tough winter for families struggling to keep their homes warm. Sometimes it was a case of simply keeping the pipes from freezing. Frigid temperatures and cuts in the federally-funded fuel assistance program created heavy demands on the wood bank. Thanks to contributions of firewood and labor, we were able to help all 14 families who have called to date. Our thanks to the following kind people:

From Antrim: Chris and Susan Brissette, Matt and Diane Chauncey, Steve and Paige Jones, Gordon and Mary Allen, Ernie Litchfield, John Vance, Ben Pratt, Wayne Nichols, Dave and Dotti Penny, Rod Zwirner, JJ Dunlap, Kevin and Doug Clark, and Peter Beblowski; *From Bennington:* Reggie Lyons, Jim and Carol Cleary, and Jim and Lianna Poodiak; *From Hancock:* Steve Smith, Billy Horton and Lee Baker; *From Hillsborough:* Stacey Warren and Dave Murdough; *From Henniker:* Paul Wilson. (Note: To those who helped out after the *Limrik* deadline, please accept our thanks.)

SUMMER TIME IS AUCTION TIME

Summer is just around the corner, and planning for The Grapevine's 4th Annual Benefit Auction is underway. The auction is The Grapevine's biggest fund raising event, and we depend on the proceeds to support our children's programs. Call Kristin Readell at The Grapevine today to volunteer. No experience necessary!

THE LEARNING VINE FALL 2003 PRE-REGISTRATION

Parents with children who will be 3 1/2 to 4 1/2 years of age by September may call The Grapevine now to pre-register for The Learning Vine 2003/2004 school year. Enrollment is limited to 10 children. Families considering fall enrollment are encouraged to call The Grapevine to schedule a visit to the program in April or May.

The curriculum used at The Learning Vine is based on the High Scope Program, a language-based developmental program. The Learning Vine fosters a love of learn-

ing in an environment of acceptance and mutual respect. The teacher, Carol Lunan M.Ed, is an exceptional early childhood educator who also runs the WOLS Nest program at the Harris Center in Hancock. Before coming to The Grapevine, Carol was co-director and teacher at Happy Valley in Peterborough for 8 years.

Learning Vine parents assist Carol in the classroom, plan field trips, and develop special activities. The cost of the program is very reasonable due to parent involvement. Financial assistance with tuition is available.

BETTER BEGINNINGS PARENT-CHILD PROGRAM

The children's program celebrated the wonders of Winter with the popular theme Snow! We created snow with cotton balls, shaving cream, salt painting, and chalk drawing. A highlight was the creation of 3 life-size indoor snow people. Our favorite winter stories were *The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats, *Snowballs* by Lois Ehlert, and *Stranger in the Woods* by Carl R.Sams II and Jean Stoicle.

With Spring just around the corner, we will be illustrating our own month and season book following the lead of *Chicken Soup With Rice* by Maurice Sendak. Other Spring themes will center around seeds, growing flowers and food we eat.

Here are two favorite recipes Grapevine recipes:

• **Make Your Own Baby Wipes** (a natural alternative from our Baby Group)

- 4 cups water
- 1 tsp. Baby Shampoo
- 1 tsp. Baby Oil

paper towels or napkins

Fill a Ziploc bag or baby box with napkins or paper towel squares. Add liquid mixture until saturated.

• **Make Your Own Play Dough** (a daily favorite of all ages)

- 3 cups flour
- 1 1/2 cups salt
- 3 cups water
- 1/3 cup vegetable oil
- 3 tbsps. cream of tartar
- food coloring

Mix all ingredients in large pan. Stir over medium heat until ball forms. Knead in Ziploc bag. Store in an airtight container.

↳ — continued next page

The Grapevine *continued*

The Better Beginnings parents have had the opportunity to experience a wide variety of guest speakers this season. Presentations included nutritionist Stacey Oshkello, who addressed children's eating and how to establish positive habits; Deb Haskins, an Early Intervention Specialist from the RISE program, who talked about in-home support to parents of children with particular developmental needs; Pat Van Waggoner of PBS, who promoted literacy, positive parent-child relationships, and conflict resolution skills; and Connie Vandervort, a grandmother in our program, who enlightened us with storytelling, puppetry, and holiday craft ideas.

In upcoming months, the parent groups will be discussing the book *The Continuum Concept* and focusing on themes of self esteem versus self respect, and the dangers of child-centeredness and permissiveness.

As always, we celebrate the children among us and the commitment of their wonderful parents.

GRAPEVINE EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

The Grapevine's programs for parents and young children (birth to 5) follow the ConVal school calendar. Our weekly schedule is as follows:

- **Mondays 9:30 to 11:30 Better Beginnings Playgroup**
- **Mondays 3:00 to 5:00 New! Young Parents' and Children's Playgroup**
- **Tuesdays 9:30 to 11:30 Better Beginnings Playgroup**
- **Wednesdays 9:00 to 11:30 The Learning Vine**
- **Wednesdays 11:00 to 12:30 Better Beginnings Baby Group**
- **Thursdays 9:30 to 11:30 Better Beginnings Playgroup**
- **Fridays 9:00 to 11:30 The Learning Vine**

SERVICES AT THE GRAPEVINE

• **Information and referral** about area resources for assistance, food, childcare, legal assistance, clothing, health and dental care, and other needs.

• **Child & Family Counseling** provided by Monadnock Family Services by appointment Monday, Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday. Sliding scale fee.

• **Family Conflict Resolution** offered by Milford Area Mediation Services by appointment. Free.

Call The Grapevine at 588-2620 for more information about the above services or to register for programs. We are currently located at the Church of Christ on 100 Main Street in Antrim, while our center behind the library is renovated. Our office hours are Monday 9 to 3 PM, Tuesday 11 to 3 PM, Wednesday and Thursday 11 to 2 PM, and Friday mornings by chance or appointment. We welcome visits.

ABOUT OUR FUNDING

The Grapevine is a non-profit service organization, funded by grants and charitable contributions. Your tax deductible contribution can be mailed to The Grapevine at PO Box 637, Antrim 03440.

Grapevine supporters include Monadnock Paper Mills, Hillsborough County Incentive Funds, NH Children's Trust Fund, Monadnock Community Hospital, BridgeBuilders Foundation, The Robin Colson Memorial Foundation, NH Ball Bearing, New England Presbytery, The Bishop's Summer Fund of the Manchester Diocese, Granite Bank, NH Division of Alcohol Prevention and Recovery, the First Presbyterian Church of Antrim, Rick & Diane's, Alberto's, Mush Cook's Garage, Edmunds' Hardward, Charles Van Horn CPA, Solod Electrical Contracting, Fox Run Farm, Sampan, SDE, Millard Group, Interlocken, Hillsboro Ford, and many people in Antrim and nearby towns. Numerous community members and businesses donate time, talents, and supplies.

Thank you for supporting your local family and community resource center. ♣

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Tuttle Library *continued*

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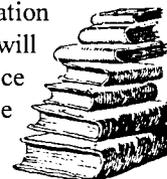
Hard economic times make library use and services even more valuable to our residents and as disposable income shrinks, many people are no longer able to buy books, audiotapes or videos, buy or upgrade computers, buy newspapers or magazines, or pay for Internet access. Library Journal (January 2003) states that "Library usage rises in hard economic times, and that raises a paradox: the more libraries are needed, the less money there is to support them." The public library—any public library—provides lifelong learning opportunities for everyone. In effect, the public library helps to "level the playing field" for all who use it.

Antrim is a diverse and literate community whose members have a wide range of reading tastes and interests. In fact, they are extremely eclectic. Library patrons are continually surprising staff with unusual requests for information and services, as well as books and other materials.

Computers, contrary to "popular wisdom" did not signal the end of the book. According to the American Association of Publishers, US book sales in 2002 totaled more than 25 billion books. The practical reality for libraries is that "...while computers clearly enhance access to materials and services, the book-filled building remains a central feature of the world library system." Encyclopedia Americana, "Library" article, 2000.

A recent poll conducted for the American Library Association discovered that 91% of the respondents expect libraries to be needed in the future, despite the increased availability of information via computers and the internet.

According to the Antrim History, *Parrades and Promenades*, libraries have been an integral part of Antrim's history since before the town's incorporation in 1777. The Tuttle Library will continue to provide service and materials (whether it be books, CDs, DVDs, or data via computer) for many years to come.



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- O'Neil's Realty has been serving the real estate needs of the area since 1972
- Wayne & Maureen DeKoning have owned the Agency since 1988
- We have raised our five children in Antrim, since relocating here in 1970 from Long Island, NY
- Wayne & Maureen both have the REALTOR designation of Certified Residential Specialists and are both graduates of the Real Estate Institute
- Maureen was honored as REALTOR OF THE YEAR for 2002 for the Contoocook Valley Board of Realtors
- Maureen is the President of the Contoocook Valley Board of REALTORS



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