

# The LIMRIK

A Quarterly Journal

For, by and about the people of Antrim

Vol. 13 #2  
March 2004

## SELECTMEN RECOMMEND

VOTE **NO** ON ITEM # 9  
ON THE SCHOOL WARRANT!  
MARCH 9

If this item passes, Antrim's taxes will increase by well over a half a million dollars. By voting "NO" on item #9 (reprinted below), you will support the current 50/50 formula for financing the Conval Schools.

#9 "To see if the District will vote to amend its Articles of Agreement, Paragraph 8 relating to the current apportionment formula; and amend this Paragraph to its original language with an apportionment of 75% on the average daily membership of pupils and 25% on the equalized valuation of the towns. (Submitted by petition. Requires a 2/3 vote.)

## SELECTMEN'S REPORT

By Mike Genest  
Chair, Board of Selectmen

### TOWN MEETING - MARCH 11

The Board of Selectmen, Department Heads and Town Administrator have been working hard preparing for Town Meeting, to be held March 11th at 7 PM at the Town Gym at the Antrim Elementary School. We felt it especially important this year to control spending, to cut costs wherever possible and to have little impact on the Town's tax rate. We greatly appreciate all the efforts of the Department Heads in preparing their individual budgets to help us achieve our goals. We encourage you to pick up a copy of the Town Report prior to Town Meeting and to review the budget and warrant articles as well as the committee and department annual reports.

### WARRANTS

There are several warrant articles that we feel are very important to the future of Antrim and that we urge you to carefully consider. The first is the Sidewalks Project. Phase One of

— continued on page 3

## PLANNING BOARD

### WHY SO MANY ORDINANCE CHANGES

By Paul Vasques

The Planning Board has spent the last year reviewing various zoning ordinances and is proposing seven changes to be voted on by the residents of Antrim on March 9. Often times the description of the ordinance placed on the ballot is, of necessity, brief and sometimes confuses the voter who is left wondering just what they are voting for. Consequently, the Board is offering the following clarification of the items being placed on the ballot this year.

Of major concern to the Board has been the recent trend in the necessity for home care of elderly parents. Many baby boomers who are confronted with the necessity to take care of immediate family members, cannot afford to place them in nursing homes. The usual alternative in many towns, a "mother-in-law" apartment, is not currently a permitted use in Antrim. What the Board has done is to review and make changes in the existing ordinances

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## RECREATION FIELD SEARCH CONTINUES

Following the failure at the '03 Town Meeting to gain approval for purchasing new recreational space on Fred Roberts' Elm Street property, attention shifted to a parcel on Route 31 owned by David Cutter. A committee consisting of John Leonard, Sam Harding, Peter Lamb and Rick Wood was charged with examining not only purchase price but also logistics of developing and accessing this site.

Accessing turned out to be very problematic. The committee considered five different access lanes and found that none was appropriate, both because of severe inconveniences they would create for site abutters and because of cost which would have doubled or tripled the purchase price. Thus, on January 29th, the committee voted four to zero not to recommend this site to the coming Town Meeting.

Instead, the committee drafted an article requesting a Recreation Land and Maintenance Reserve Fund of \$30,000. This would allow

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✓ **TOWN VOTING** ✓  
MARCH 9 8 AM — 7 PM  
TOWN HALL  
See Candidate list, page 4  
**TOWN MEETING**  
MARCH 11 7 PM  
TOWN GYM  
ANTRIM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## LUTHERAN FAMILY SHELTER FOR GIRLS

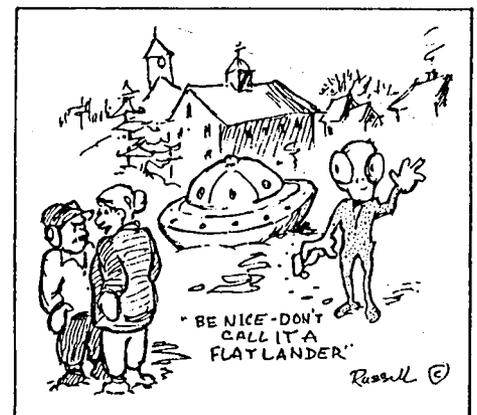
ON MAIN STREET  
By Janet MacLachlan

The interesting white pillared house on Antrim's Main Street across from Edmunds' Hardware was once the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Levi Woodbury who built it in 1856. The town physician, Dr. Tibbetts, also lived there from 1920 to 1935. Now it is the Lutheran Family Shelter, a haven to 12 girls at a time who live there under the care of Program Director Randa Tenney. The girls range in age from 11 to 17, the average age being 14 to 15. Having been runaways or truants, the girls have been placed in the home by the New Hampshire juvenile justice system for a rehabilitation period of not longer than 60 days. The average staying time is 30 to 35 days.

### SCHOOLING

The shelter is a certified non-public school, so while the girls are there they have school

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The *LIMRIK* is published four times a year, March, June, September, and December on the first of the month. It is delivered free to every mail address in town. Otherwise, the subscription rate is \$10 per year. Send your order to:

Subscriptions:  
**ANTRIM LIMRIK**  
 PO Box 30  
 Antrim, NH 03440

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:

Subs. Exps. 'date'

## 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 Advertising Manager.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

E-mail your letters to the *LIMRIK* in care of Lyman Gilmore. The address is: [L\\_gilmore@conknet.com](mailto:L_gilmore@conknet.com)

## CREDITS

The limerick on page 3 is by Dick Winslow, Managing Editor. The cartoon on page 1 is the creation of Russ Russell, Art Director.



## 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.

## Planning Board continued

which govern conversion apartments, multifamily dwelling and duplexes. They concluded that provisions should be made in the ordinance to allow mother-in-law apartments (Accessory Living Units) in certain zoning districts. The definition of an Accessory Living Unit is that it contains its own bedroom, kitchen, and bathroom; that at least one member occupying the unit be related to the property owner or be a family caregiver; that the owner of record must occupy one of the units and the unit may not be rented to the general public. Again, the intent of this ordinance is to allow for the care of elderly or handicapped family members within a home but in separate quarters.

Board members felt that conversion apartments should be redefined so they can not be built as a duplex (mirror image of the existing structure), that they may be rented to the general public and that the owner of the property must occupy one of the dwelling units. The reason for owner occupancy is to avoid problems often associated with absentee landlords. Another change in the ordinance that the Board feels would benefit the Antrim countryside would be to require that any changes made to the structure when adding apartments should be in keeping with the existing architectural style of the building.

Conversion apartments and auxiliary living units are only permitted by special exception meaning that approval must be obtained from the Zoning Board of Adjustment to insure safeguards for public health, safety and welfare. Towards that end the Planning Board has established certain new criteria in the ordinance which must be adhered to in order to obtain a special exception.

The current ordinance only permits conversion apartments in the Village Business, Highway Business, Residential and Rural Districts which covers approximately fifty percent of the town. The ordinance does not permit the addition of apartments to an existing structure in the Rural Conservation or Lakefront Residential Districts thus effectively prohibiting homeowners in the remaining fifty percent of the town from providing a comfortable and safe apartment for an elderly or handicapped family member. This restriction could result in those caregivers having to bear the high cost of nursing homes. The Board felt that this was an inequitable situation in the town and should be corrected by permitting mother-in-law apartments in the Rural Conservation and Lakefront Residential Districts.

Anyone having questions regarding the proposed changes in the ordinance should call Paul Vasques, secretary to the Planning Board. ♣

## HOME & HARVEST DAY

### PLANNING MEETING

By Kristin Readell

A meeting to plan Antrim's first annual Home and Harvest Day will take place, Monday March 8, 6:30 PM at Rick and Diane's Restaurant. All are welcome.

This event, to take place September 18th, is a merger of The Grapevine's Auction and Rick's Downtown parade and pizza eating contest. We are planning a Main Street event which we hope will celebrate Antrim's rich heritage and grow its hopes for the future.

Some of the events already planned include; The Grapevine's Auction, Tuttle Library Book sale and Bookmark making, Parade (haven't you always wanted to "float" down Main Street?), Sidewalk sales, Yard sales, and Antrim in the Evening music at Memorial Park. The possibilities are endless and we'd love to have partners to help craft this event. An "Antrim Artisans Area" would be nice. What about runners who's like to bring back "Wayno's" 5K? Financial sponsors, group leaders, float entries...all are welcome!

For more information or questions, contact Rick Davis at 588-3388 or Kristin Readell at 588-4106. ♣

## SCHOOL BOARD NEWS

By Denise Holmes

We have had a change in representation from Antrim on the Conval School Board. Rich Morel who was elected in 2002 had to resign because of a change in his work schedule. He was fortunate to get a new position which he is really enjoying, but it left him unable to continue to serve on the School Board. We truly miss his perspective, common sense and insistence on basing decisions using 'the data'. I enjoyed working with him and we all wish him well in his career change.

Fortunately for Antrim, Jan Goolbis has stepped in to fill the vacancy left by Rich's departure. She has lived in Antrim for two years and has lived in the Conval School District since 1985. She has two children, a son at Conval and a daughter at GBS. Jan works as a counselor in an alternative high school, so comes with not only a new perspective, but with a slightly different view into the educational system. We look forward to working with her.

We conducted the first session of the Annual School District Meeting on February 4. We discussed the warrant articles which will be voted on at the polls on March 9. Article 4 is the warrant dealing with the budget. The proposed budget for the 2004-2005 school year is \$34,927,807. The board and the administrators worked to bring forward a 'flat' budget. We believe we are presenting a very 'tight' budget, but one which supports the educational needs of our children. The School Board recommends that you vote yes on this budget.

We also recommend the adoption of article 8 which is the cost of the one year teachers' contract. This \$905,099 represents a 2 1/2% increase in salary and sharing the increase in the cost of benefits. The teachers have agreed to the district paying 80% rather than the previous 83% of their health care benefits. We believe this is a fair agreement.

As I write this article, the school board is about to deliberate on the situation concerning Mr. Dodge. Many people in our schools and our community have been distressed and perplexed by this ordeal. If there is anything to be gained by this experience, it is the knowledge that people really care about children and the education they are getting in our schools. It will take time and work to sort through everything that has happened, but ultimately the goal we hold in common is the best interest of our kids and their education. I am confident that working together and keeping focused on our common goal, providing the educational opportunities our students need, we can go forward with a renewed commitment to our kids.

You can call Denise Holmes, 588-3098 or Jan Goolbis, 588-2371. ♣



### Spring

It's just a bit early to sing  
Of the bud-bursting marvels of spring.  
But that glorious clime  
Comes one day at a time.  
Let's see what tomorrow may bring.

## Selectmen's Report continued

this Project, improving the sidewalks in the downtown area, has already been approved, engineering has begun and construction is scheduled to start in the Fall. Phase Two, this year's article on the warrant, entails improving the sidewalks on West Street, Summer Street, and Main Street North. The cost of the sidewalk improvements is estimated to be \$185,000. The Selectmen are recommending this and feel this Phase of the project is very important to ensure the safety of our children walking to and from school. This warrant will be a ballot vote and will require a 2/3 vote of approval.

Another article has been submitted by the Library Board of Trustees for the renovation of the existing Library. The basement area of the Library is particularly in need of major repair, poor drainage, structural, electrical, and mechanical repairs must be done. We have to take care of our historic buildings.

Two warrant articles request that new reserves be established for future projects: the expansion of the Library and the purchase of recreation lands for the use of the Town. The purpose of establishing reserve accounts is to spread the cost of a project over a period of years. The Library Board of Trustees believes that the Library needs additional space to adequately serve the Town's citizens and that an addition is needed in the near future. The Town's recreation programs are extremely popular and are outgrowing the capacity of the playing fields we currently share with the schools. The selectmen are in support of both these articles.

### TOWN VOTING - MARCH 9

A very important issue that will be on the Ballot on Tuesday, March 9, is School Funding Policy. Currently funding is based on a ratio of 50% students and 50% property value. The Ballot initiative, put forth by petition by a few Dublin residents, is to change this funding ratio to 75% students / 25% property value. The Selectmen believe that this would be very detrimental to a Town such as Antrim with a large student population and lower property values, and of enormous benefit to property-rich towns. If passed, our current tax rate would have to increase by 20%+, to cover Antrim's additional cost. Therefore the Selectmen strongly recommend the defeat of this ballot and we urge all to consider the issue carefully and to be sure that you vote on election day!

Finally, we have had some changes at the Town Hall in the last three months. Mike Oldershaw has graciously stepped in to fill the remaining term of Dave Penny, who moved in November and had to leave the Board of Selectmen. Mike has served as selectman in the past and brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the job.

To fill the vacant position of Town Administrator, The Board of Selectmen formed a Search Committee which considered over 25 applicants before choosing Bill Prokop as our new Administrator. Bill has an extensive business background and although he will be missed from the Board of Selectmen, we look forward to working with him in his new position.

Thank you for your support and see you all at Town Meeting. ♣



### DOG REGISTRATION



Don't forget that you need to register your dog(s) in April. Be sure to bring a rabies vaccination certificate when you go to register with Town Clerk Marita Hammond.

## THE LEANING TOWER OF ANTRIM

By Lyman Gilmore

Maybe you have seen the tall leaning spruce tree in the yard at the corner where High Street, Pleasant Street, and Highland Avenue come together. For years the tree has appeared to tilt more and more to the east with each passing season. Every day folks in the neighborhood would glance up to see if it were still tipping, still standing. Then, suddenly, it was gone. We were taking our after supper walk one evening last fall, and when we looked up we were shocked to be peering at empty space. The tree lay sprawled in the direction it had bent, having snapped and fallen neatly and narrowly between a flagpole and a trellis.

Donald Maugham, who owns the tree's house and yard, reports it had come down in "a big wind" last November while he and his wife Amy were out. He said he measured the downed spruce to be ninety-two feet long. The Maughams, who moved to Antrim from Watertown, New York, in 1993, had heard that Maurice Poor transplanted the tree from his place up on High Street when he built the house in 1935. Someone told them that the young tree had started to veer from the vertical because it was crowded by a larger neighboring tree. Apparently responding to the pull of phototropism, it leaned over to get at the light. Peter and Schatze Moore lived in the Poor house in the late 1980s and early '90s. They say there had been another large tree hovering close to the spruce, although they don't know what caused its lean. Their daughter Molly, now twenty-one, used to play under the tilting spruce when she was ten or eleven. She was so taken by the odd tree that she wrote a story about it, now, alas, lost. If anyone knows more about this tree with a mind of its own—and why it got that way—let us know and we'll report in the next *LIMRIK*. ♣



## WHY LEONARD?

WARRANT ARTICLE 19

By Shelley Nelkens

On March 11th, Antrimites will vote on a warrant article to decide whether to request President Bush grant executive clemency to Leonard Peltier. Doing so will demonstrate to Native American people and the nation as a whole that we actively support justice and human rights for all. Antrim's voice will join other notable voices calling for executive clemency, such as:

The World Council of Churches, Amnesty International, The European Parliament, The Kennedy Memorial Center for Human Rights, ex-US Attorney General Ramsey Clark, the Dalai Lama, Mother Teresa, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, and Canada's Assembly of First Nations.

As co-founder of the NH Leonard Peltier Support Group, I have long been concerned with what I believe to be the FBI's egregious manipulation, coercion and actual withholding of critical evidence in its quest to convict Leonard Peltier, the only person who could still be brought to trial after everyone else involved in the fatal shootings of two FBI agents had been acquitted. The murders of the agents—and the rarely mentioned 62 Indians—took place just prior to and during the 1973 siege of Wounded Knee on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota.

An excellent history, the video "Incident at Ogalla" by Robert Redford, is available at the Tuttle Library, as is Leonard's autobiography *Prison Writings: My Life is My Sundance*. And, for the latest hopeful developments affecting Leonard's 28 year incarceration in Leavenworth Federal Penitentiary, access the website at: [www.leonardpeltier.org](http://www.leonardpeltier.org). ♣

### VOTING

#### MODERATOR (2 Years)

Robert B. Flanders

#### SELECTMAN (3 Years)

Michael Oldershaw

#### SELECTMAN (1 Year)

Benjamin Pratt

#### LIBRARY TRUSTEE (3 Years)

Nancy T. Benda  
Sharon Dowling } vote for 2

#### TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS (3 Years)

Brian Sawich  
David F. Ward } vote for 1

#### TREASURER (1 Year)

David E. Essex

#### SEWER & WATER COMMISSIONER (3 Years)

L. Andrew Chapman

#### PLANNING BOARD (3 Years)

A. Fred Anderson  
Edwin Rowehl } vote for 2

#### PLANNING BOARD (1 Year)

Daniel B. Valley

#### SUPERVISOR OF CHECK LIST (6 Years)

Sarah W. Edwards  
Lois Essex } vote for 1

#### SCHOOL BOARD (3 Years)

Denise Holmes

#### SCHOOL BOARD (1 Year)

Jan Goolbis

## ANTRIM'S HIP HOP MAN OWEN KOHL

By Lyman Gilmore

*The December 2003 LIMRIK contained a story about an Antrim father and son who met up with one another in Mongolia. The father, Philip Kohl, was on an archeological project, the son, Owen, was investigating Hip Hop music around the world. This is Owen's story.*

*Owen Kohl, twenty-three, received a one year Watson Fellowship when he graduated from Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota, in 2002. From that August to August 2003 he filmed and interviewed hip hop performers in France, Senegal, Croatia, Russia, and Mongolia.*

*When I met Owen Kohl I was blithely ignorant of Hip Hop. In fact, when I announced to the LIMRIK editorial board that I planned to write about Hip Hop, everybody rolled their eyes and looked at me as if I were crazy. That response made me eager to speak to Owen about what has become not just his interest but—as he admits—his obsession.*

*Although Owen is an Antrim resident, these days he lives in Watertown, Mass., near Boston. Our interview took place in a Cambridge coffee shop. Tall and slender, with dark hair, bushy eyebrows, an acute gaze and a wide smile, Owen attracted considerable notice from the café crowd as he entered, although he appeared unaware of this. We had never met, but spotting my tape recorder on the table, he approached without hesitation, handshake extended. I told him I knew nothing about Hip Hop.*

*"How did you get involved studying Hip Hop?"*

The Watson Fellowship sends you abroad to study a topic loosely related to your studies, but it's really about a year of personal growth with a unique subject that few people have looked at. When I heard about the Watson I knew immediately that I wanted to do it on hip hop. Although I majored in German Studies and Russian, I positioned myself throughout college to do something with Hip Hop.

I first became aware of Hip Hop when I was about ten or eleven years old, mainly through the radio, the mainstream "top 40", that sort of thing. Throughout the eighties Hip Hop was gaining major presence in the top 40 rotation, and I was picking up on that. Tastes change so quickly at that age, but in retrospect I'd say that I wasn't huge into it at the time. But there were some groups that kind of stuck with me, and I was definitely a big fan of those.

I was always more passionate about Hip Hop and other music than my peers. If everyone was into Nirvana, then I was listening to Grunge music by little known groups that

opened for Nirvana. I was kind of "fronting," trying to be more in the know. But digging for unknown stuff also really interested me for whatever reason. ("Fronting" is Hip Hop talk for pretending to be more knowledgeable than you are.)

When I was seventeen I studied abroad in Germany and lived with a German family. My host "brother" was an enormous Hip Hop fan, and he taught me more about American Hip Hop than I ever knew. All his friends—some of them were performers—were huge into it. When in I got home and went to school in Minnesota, Hip Hop was booming there. Then in 1999 I went to Russia and to Tblisi, Georgia, where I saw Tu Pac and other California artists' names scrawled on a wall, and I thought, "My God, if it's made it to Tblisi, it's got to be in Bangladesh, it's got to be everywhere." It's enormous in France, especially among groups of African immigrants performing hip hop who related it to the early 90s social messages from American groups like Public Enemy and KRS1, that were critiquing American racial inequality. France is really the biggest scene outside of the United States. In Senegal in West Africa they say after New York and Paris, Dakar is the third capital of Hip Hop.

*"I've asked several music people in Antrim what Hip Hop is, but no one has been able to tell me. My two grandsons, Gillan, 9, and Emerson, 11, came the closest by explaining that it is a mix of jazz, rock, and rap. What is Hip Hop to you?"*

Well, among artists and fans there has been an ongoing hotly contested debate concerning hip-hop's definition since its inception. This argument is even more heated today. If you listen to commercial radio or watch MTV, you will assume that Hip Hop is nothing more than rap music; i.e., rhyming over "sampled" rhythms. ("Sampling" is basically taking apart a loop of the music that is already pre-recorded, a beat, normally, and lifting and looping it repeatedly over and over again through digital technology.)

However, a more inclusive definition is that Hip Hop is comprised of four critical elements: DJ manipulation of records (such as scratching), rapping, break dance, and graffiti writing. Hip Hop is a culture that includes producers, beat-boxers (see below), managers, fashion-designers, skateboarders, more traditional musicians, graphic designers, and filmmakers. Some artists see their role as being one of bringing unity to people of many different backgrounds. Other artists celebrate violence, macho sexism, and homophobia. And some do all of the above. It was born during the economic crisis poor African-American ghettos in New York City experienced during the mid-to late 1970s. However, its roots are much older

than that. It involves a life philosophy that celebrates different skills and character traits than traditional musicians and more conservative members of the population are comfortable with. Of course, this is changing as demonstrated by the fact that mainstream publications like the *New York Times* and *People Magazine* have taken more and more interest. Let me say this: Hip Hop is a much broader phenomenon than many other forms of popular music today. It is an urban culture with African-American roots that has spread to young people living primarily in large cities all the way from New York to Paris, from Peru to Mongolia.

As you can see, it is a very difficult question for me to answer, because the minute I say one thing, I realize there is some aspect that a concise definition does not include. Did I mention I think Hip Hop is the most important cultural movement in the latter half of the 20th century?

*"You say that US Hip Hop originated with inner city Black kids, although now it's everywhere in the white suburbs. What Hip Hop socioeconomic and ethnic characteristics did you find?"*

Hip Hop performance, or let's say "doing" Hip Hop (whatever that may be) is closely associated with people of impoverished backgrounds in urban centers. Its roots are certainly African-American, however people of all different ethnicities have played crucial roles (e.g. Hispanics, Africans, Africans living in France, Arabs living in France, Turks living in Germany, white Americans, Croats, Serbs, etc...) One interesting phenomenon I noticed is the following: in places like Senegal, Russia, Mongolia, and Croatia, some of the first critically important artists were ones that, by the standards of their own country, were far from impoverished. They, on the other hand, were young people who had access to the West and the American music market. Therefore, that traditional association people have with hip-hop being performed only by the poor is not exactly correct when one looks at many places outside the US.

*"Speaking of non US Hip Hop, what are Senegalese beat boxers?"*

Beatboxing is the art of reproducing sounds with the human mouth and throat that mimic electronically and digitally produced sounds, such as sampling and record scratching. In Senegal, there weren't many people who could do it well. One would think, that without access to turntables and records, African Hip Hop artists would overcome the problem by using their mouths. However, I found that many groups preferred live instrumentation.

— continued on page 8

## JONATHAN ALLEN'S EXCELLENT ADVENTURE

By Izi Nichols

Two award-winning movies of 2003 that have attracted much attention recently are "Master and Commander", starring Russell Crowe, and "Pirates of the Caribbean", with Johnny Depp. If you are very patient and sit through the credits at the end of these adventuresome movies, you will see Jon Allen's name listed in both of them.

Jon, the son of Gordon and Mary Allen, grew up in Antrim and graduated from Conval High in 1996. At Colby College in Maine he majored in art and pre-architecture and afterwards spent a year plying the architectural trade in Wellesley, MA. Then he decided it was time to go for the Big Adventure, which brought him to the Newport, RI Boat Show and eventually a job as a crew member delivering a large sailboat to the Caribbean.

Enter 20th Century Fox. The movie company bought the *HMS Rose*, a reproduction of a famous British frigate, to use in the filming of Patrick O'Brian's story, "Master and Commander". The *Rose* was tied up in Newport Harbor and the filming would take place on the California coast.

"The passage to San Diego was to take six weeks and would take the *Rose* through the Panama Canal," explains Jon's mother Mary. "Jon couldn't pass up the temptation of sailing a square-rigger through the canal, so he joined the crew of 30 on the *HMS Rose*."

The voyage became a harrowing experience when they encountered a nor'easter off Cape Hatteras with 25-foot waves and 100 mph winds. "You had to face away from the wind and grit your teeth to breath," say Jon. "I'd crane my neck to look up at waves 2 stories high and then look down on them 2 stories below." Fortunately Jon is an excellent sailor!

When the *Rose* arrived at its destination it was much in need of repairs, but the crew was still intact. For the movie the ship was renamed the *HMS Surprise*, and Jon and the rest of the crew were kept on for the filming, mainly because the actors knew little about sailing, and weren't about to risk their necks climbing up the rigging and swinging from the yardarm.

Most of Jon's scenes on camera are from a distance, showing only his back side, but for one brief moment he is shown full face, coming right into the camera; he might be hard to recognize, decked out as a 19th-century seaman, and made up with bushy sideburns.

Working with director Peter Weir and the stars of the picture, while helping to recreate a 19th-century epic, would seem to be enough of an adventure for one year, but Jon had made

a connection with a marine support company which shortly led to his next job. For "Pirates of the Caribbean" he was part of the crew that ferried goods and cast members to locations on St. Vincent Island (which actually is in the Caribbean). Although sometimes caught in the crossfire of smoke and blazing guns, he was not caught on film and considered this job to be pure fun.

"It was the best job of my life," says the 26-year-old adventurer, "like driving a barge in Paradise." Working for the Disney Company had many side benefits including parties where support crews and actors mingled freely.

With his movie career on hiatus Jon is now part of a 7-member crew sailing a privately owned yacht to exotic places. To his delight he found his lifelong friend Ben Forster, son of Ed and Janis Forster of Old Turnpike Road, to be a member of the crew. "The *Juliet* is an amazing 144-foot gorgeous sailing machine," Jon says in awe. "It's wonderful to look out your window at a different place every time."

After the glamorous life of Hollywood and sailing several of the seven seas, will Jonathan Allen ever be content to settle down in a stuffy architect's office? We shall see. ♣

## GLEANINGS

By Agricola

### WINTER FARMS

As the vegetable seed catalogues began to show up in my mailbox, I got to thinking about Antrim's real farmers, the folks who run our three commercial farms. While I relax by the woodstove dreaming of August tomatoes, beans, and corn, I wonder what the Tenneys, the Chaunceys, and the Platts are up to when the mercury hovers around zero.

### TENNEY FARM

I ran into Eric Tenney coming out of T-Bird early one minus-five degree January morning and asked what's doing at Tenney Farm. He was on his way to the Sewer and Water Department, so he said to come by the farm at lunchtime, which I did. You look out the back windows of Linda and Eric's comfortable and stylish living room in the barn converted to a home, and you see the broad sweep of the Tenney fields stretching east to the Contoocook. "My father had a dairy farm, but when I got out of the navy in 1971 we switched to vegetables."

I started to settle into an old rocker but rose abruptly when I felt the tennis ball the black Scotty had slipped in behind me. Eric laughed. Then, with a bit of irritation, he said that people

are always asking him "What do you do in the winter?" as if he takes a four-month vacation after the apple cider quits in November. He does get a little much needed rest in December, but by mid January he has nine greenhouses up and running. He starts flowers by seed in January, and at the end of March he'll begin the vegetables. Chris, his son-in-law, leaves his winter job with Rymes and joins Eric March 1st. In what is the ultimate compliment, Eric says of ex-US Marine Chris: "He's a damn good farmer." The tomato plants start from seed in early April; by summer he'll have eight-hundred field tomatoes growing. By mid April the pansies are out and on sale. Come May and June, with the strawberries, peas and other early crops, the very popular farm stand will be decorated and booming, and they'll be working twelve hour days. The "vacation" will be over.

### CHAUNCEY FARM

Diane Chauncey's huge wood stove was welcome against the cutting cold outside. We sat at her kitchen table and she showed me the colored charts she had drawn indicating exactly where in her seventy-two tillable acres of fields each of her crops will be planted come spring. In March she will start almost a thousand tomato plants, and by May 1st she will have twenty thousand pumpkin seeds growing in greenhouses: three seeds per cell, forty-eight cells per tray, five hundred trays in all. Each tray will plant one hundred fifty feet of row, and by the fall harvest she will pick one hundred tons of ripe pumpkins, of which 60% will be sold retail and 40% wholesale. In September just about everyone driving past the Chauncey Farm stand on 202 north is awed by the enormous orange profusion of pumpkins spread and stacked in intricate whirls and piles.

Diane and Matt started out as Massachusetts teachers. When they married in 1973 they got a bred ewe named Ursula who gave birth to twin lambs which grew to twenty-five sheep when they moved to the Antrim in 1979. By the mid 1980s they had become New Hampshire farmers with a flock of 150. Now, sheepless, they concentrate on vegetables and flowers, helped during the growing season by daughter Mary and son Forrest. Diane says "I was thirty-seven before I started growing anything seriously." Currently Diane is laying plans for the four farmers' markets at which she sells produce weekly, in New Boston, Bedford, Manchester, and Hillsborough, as well as their farm stand. She is preparing for a new venture, a flower route that will deliver fresh picked Zinnias, Sunflowers, Cosmos, Asters, Snapdragons, Black Eyed Susans, and ornamental grasses to florists in the region several days a week.

↳ — continued next page

## MARY'S FLOWERS

*This picture of Mary Chauncey took a first place in the New Hampshire Farm Bureau photography contest.  
It was made by Mary's mother, Diane Chauncey.*



### **Gleanings** continued

#### **PLATT'S FOX RUN FARM**

Both Eric and Diane allow how working their farms may be hard work, but they say for sheer grueling slogging, day after day, three hundred and sixty five days a year, running Platt's dairy farm is about as hard as it can get. The cold had let up a notch the day in early February when I called Steve Platt and asked if I could come out and see his cows. He said I was welcome, but he'd be hauling manure to his fields all day and I'd have to wait between the twenty-five minute round trips. A hundred and sixty cattle can produce a considerable amount of manure every day. I put on my rubber boots and drove my pickup north of town to Platt's farm and parked

in front of the barn until Steve showed up in the rickety but serviceable 1976 GM dump truck. Rather than waiting around, I asked if I could ride along, and he said sure if I didn't mind smelling like cow manure, which I didn't. While he filled the truck with his front loader I leaned on a rail watching the cows in the barn, one of whom was being eyed lovingly by a huge tan bull. In the truck on the slow road to his Deering cornfield, Steve told me that like humans, cows come into heat every twenty-eight days, making for a very busy, very happy bull.

Steve, his brother Chris, and his twenty-two-year-old son Caleb, put in sixty-hour weeks in the winter, ninety in the summer. Coffee on at six-fifteen a.m., out to start the tractor and other

machines, back in to drink some coffee, milk seventy of the cows from six to nine, clean the milking equipment and shovel out the barn, fill the long feeding troughs (Caleb feeds the dairy cows, Steve the tiny calves), go into the house at about twelve thirty for the first meal of the day, "brunch" he calls it, fixed by his mother ("She takes good care of us."), back out to haul manure and take care of other chores, do the evening milking from six to nine, go home, take a shower, have some dinner, glance at the ten o'clock news, and off to bed. Every day. They are used to it. Steve said he and his brother have been working the farm since he was seven and Chris was nine. ♣

## **Antrim's Hip Hop Man** continued

*"Your father told me about Mongolian throat singers. Did you encounter any?"*

Yes. Incredible stuff. It is this very eerie sounding traditional voice music in which a solo male singer produces two or more tones simultaneously deep in his throat. (Here is a formal explanation:

"Throat singing, or *khoomii* from the Mongolian word for throat, is a form of singing developed centuries ago by nomads in a region called Tuva, an independent republic between Mongolia and Siberia, though it is practiced in the Altai region of western Mongolia. The practice is said to have originated in a contest between rural herdsmen to see how far could get voices to carry through valleys, which has since developed into an annually held competition in Tuva. The songs that are produced are inspired by the natural sounds of the Mongolian landscape, and supposedly mimic noises such as trickling streams and howling winds. The tradition is linked to the Mongolian belief in animism, that natural object have souls or are inhabited by spirits and by mimicking these sounds, humans can harness the powers of these spirits." Pilot Productions, 2002.)

I think Mongolian Hip Hop will be very good one day. Right now it is still coming into its own. You see, in every place hip-hop has spread, the first tendency is to produce mere copies of what the American artists are doing. Then finally someone has the idea to rap in the native language. This occurred some 20 years ago in France and Germany, in Mongolia, Hip Hop is so new that they are still perfecting different styles. In my opinion, the first real interesting point in a country's Hip Hop history is when artists begin to use native instrumentation, songs, and records to make their music. Until then, the American presence overshadows the unique side of each independent national scene. When the Mongolians finally begin using throatsingers, or sampling that sort of music to make rap music, that's when it will be something special. Believe me, I encouraged it to no end. There are also a few guys getting into this now.

*"How do Mongolian breakdancers differ from those in the US?"*

The best Mongolian ones aren't as good as our best yet, because they are very young. However, they are serious. I met one crew that was determined to be invited to the international competition in Germany. I think they have the dedication required to compete on an international level.

One aspect I forgot to mention in my definition is that Hip Hop will always strive to offend, question, and critique the status quo. Back when I was young, the most famous artists were generally more concerned with political and social inequalities than the most famous artists one hears on the radio today. Today, one has to look to the underground Hip Hop scene to find the same level of powerful social messages and engagement. Artists like Eminem, 50 Cent, Dr. Dre, Snoop Dogg and others also are involved in challenging the establishment. However, they usually do so by being sexually explicit or celebrating violent realities of street-life.

*"Are the violent and sexual themes of US Hip Hop present in Hip Hop around the world?"*

Yes, definitely. I learned that people everywhere are attracted to hip-hop for good reasons, bad reasons, and sometimes both at the same time. However, Hip Hop is not the only genre of music or culture that celebrates sexual promiscuity, violence, and drugs. For whatever reason, the media love to jump all over Hip Hop for this. I think some people on television have some ulterior motive and a strange agenda.

*"Are there highlights or exceptional or extraordinary moments you can describe?"*

Yes, there were many. I interviewed many Americans ... Public Enemy, RZA of the Wu-Tang Clan, and Mr. Lif being the most important of those. Lif and P.E. are two major reasons why I became such a strong advocate of Hip Hop. Of course, I recognize there are a lot of problems with Hip Hop, but there are guys who represent its great potentiality for positive change. Both P.E. and Lif are heroes to many people, including myself. As one can imagine, the travel was amazing. Working in urban West African ghettos ... meeting French Hip Hop pioneers ... performing in clubs myself...it was at once really difficult and a dream come true. I met so many artists and heard so many stories. The music varied from terrible to outstanding, but I was lucky enough to accumulate a huge knowledge of what's out there. Of course this whole thing made adjusting to the real world over the past few months pretty hard. I was sort of a fruitcake before, but now ... returning to New England feels like going out for coffee on planet Mars. All that runs through my head are ideas for trying to make the past year happen all over again. But, for now, I think a brief stint in the real world might do me some good.

*"Did you experience any safety or security problems in your travels?"*

Yeah, I nearly had a fight with some Russian skinheads. The skins and the Hip Hoppers in Russia don't get along. The fascist assumption is that if you are listening to African-American music, you don't belong in Russia. One of the worst stories after the collapse of the Soviet Union is how bad the racism towards foreigners or minorities of nearly any sort has gotten. Especially in Russia. It was always present, but now the media and many politicians actively perpetuate ignorance of the racist sort. Other than that brush with death, I was alright.

*"I'm a foodie and so am interested in unusual cuisine you may have encountered."*

On the Mongolian steppe there were so many milk-based foods, it was obscene. Milk, yogurt, cheese, milk vodka, humis, milk cookies; you name it, nearly everything they had was made of milk. It was tough on the gut, but it tasted okay. The best food was in Croatia. They have perfected fast-food, I don't care what McDonald's and Burger King claim. There are these meat fingers called *Cevapi* (pronounced *Che-vap-ic*), which are brilliant. There is also *Burck*, which is a meat-filled pastry. Tasty as hell. So many cultures come together in the Balkans, that it should be no wonder why their food is so good.

*"Say a little something about your plans—and hopes—for a documentary using the film you took on your trip."*

Well, my major goal in all of this is to produce (its going to be awhile) a documentary film about the globalization of this movement. I want to include artists from the US, so there is some name recognition, but focus on artists outside the US. Because Hip Hop is based to some degree in socially-conscious poetry, I think this film could be very educational as the artists talk about their lyrics and how they relate to their society. I also think it could be very entertaining. After all, some breakdance, DJ-ing, rapping, beatboxing, and graffiti are really a high form of art. One just has to know where to look. Unfortunately, I don't think many Americans would ever watch a documentary about Senegalese politics. However, if the music is good and familiar, I think they could watch a movie about Hip Hop in Senegal and how it relates to politics there, especially if I were to include some famous American star. I want to do this on a global scale.

Besides the documentary, I want to write articles, put out "mixtapes," and continue trying to document this important aspect of globalization. Very little good work has been done. A "mixtape" is a new medium that also came

— continued next page

## **Antrim's Hip Hop Man** continued

with hip hop. Basically, it is different songs from different albums that a DJ mixes together in a unique and exciting way, using scratching, beat-juggling, beat-mixing, etc. Out of other people's music, he makes a sort of audio collage. I'd like to do this with good international Hip Hop, American underground stuff, and the best of the mainstream. You know, sort of tricking kids into thinking foreign music is just as cool as 50 Cent.

*"What does the film include?"*

I came back with 120 hours of film. It includes mostly interviews, but also a lot of performance. It isn't all great, but it should be enough to put some shorts together. Ultimately, all of these plans are great, but the funding is gone just as the grunt work needs to begin. Right now, I am also a one-man show, so I need some help badly. If I can show sponsors what I can do on my own, hopefully I can secure some financial aid. If not, well, I'll try to make a few cute little motion pictures and write a big paper about what I experienced.

*"Looking back on your Watson project, what emerges as important?"*

I was looking for a way to find myself as part of Hip Hop, and to try to do something that was my own. I don't want to be an artist particularly, I'm more interested in the phenomenon from an academic perspective. I'm fascinated by the sociology of the movement. Also, I am very interested from an activist perspective, There are some things about Hip Hop that are new and really quite positive. All the musical and artistic innovations have produced completely original art forms including DJ's scratching records, new ways of mixing music, novel forms of dance and aerosol art, and rapping? Perhaps more importantly I think one thing that Hip Hop has done is bring extremely diverse groups of people together: black kids, white kids, Asian kids, Hispanic kids, all coming together—and various socioeconomic groups—all performing, attending shows, listening to the music. I do see a great potential for Hip Hop in that you see kids from all sorts of different backgrounds listening to it, coming to it.

*Owen's way of getting back to the "real world" is his current employment "teaching special education kids," especially those from non-English speaking homes, at Watertown High School.* ♣

## **ANTRIM COMMUNITY GRANGE**

By Beth Merrill

The Antrim Community Grange sponsored the Dictionary Project for third grade students in Antrim and Bennington for a second year. The project was expanded this year by securing a corporate sponsor, New England Business Service, Inc., which enabled us, along with our friends at Oak Hill Grange in Frankestown and Miller Grange in Temple, to provide dictionaries to every third grade student in the Conval school district. It's not certain who derives the most pleasure from this project; the students or the Grange members who go to the schools to present the dictionaries in person!

### **GRANGE MEMBERS IN THE MILITARY**

Members are working diligently to carry on the various projects and programs of Antrim Community Grange since our president, Carryl Davis, has been called away from the Grange family fold. Two weeks after popping the question to his girlfriend, Steph, during a Thanksgiving week vacation at Disney World, Carryl received word that his National Guard unit was being called into 18 months of active duty in Iraq. With plans for a lovely spring wedding hopelessly gone awry, the couple nevertheless rose to the occasion and, in just two weeks time, were married in a beautiful winter ceremony and reception. On their one week anniversary, Mr. and Mrs. Davis were hard at work along with several other Antrim members serving dinner to the participants of the National Grange Legislative Fly-in in Hooksett. Carryl shipped out the next week and now joins three other Antrim Community Grange members who are currently serving in the military, Norman Corliss, Ray Davis, and David Fryman. We are very proud of these young men and the service they are providing their country.

### **AUCTION**

Mark your calendars now for the Grange Auction Extravaganza, which will be held on Wednesday, April 21 at the Antrim Town Hall. In conjunction with National Grange Month, the auction will feature a combination of entertaining auction formats to disperse the products and services donated by local families and businesses. There will be live background music and refreshments. Proceeds from this event will go toward the brand new Antrim Community Grange Scholarship program. All donations will be gratefully received. Anyone wishing to contribute an item to the auction list may contact Eliot Davis, 428-4392, with your name, phone number and a short description of the product or service you wish to donate.

### **SCHOLARSHIP**

Applications for the Antrim Community Grange Scholarship may be obtained at the Conval High School guidance office, Tuttle and

Dodge Libraries, or from a member of the Grange. Those who apply must be a high school senior or college student and a resident of Antrim or Bennington. The \$500 scholarship will be given on contingency of acceptance to the college of choice. Complete applications are due April 10th. The recipient will be announced and presented at the Grange's Community Awards Night program on May 19th, along with the traditional Police, Fireman, Teacher, Postal Worker, and Community Citizen awards.

Consideration will be given to nominations submitted from members of the Antrim/Bennington community. Call 588-3208 or 588-6615 with your suggestions. The Awards Night is open to the public. Look for more details on these and other Antrim Community Grange projects in the local weekly newspapers.

For more information about the Grange, log on to the following websites:

[www.nationalgrange.org](http://www.nationalgrange.org) or [www.nhgrange.org](http://www.nhgrange.org).

## **Recreation Field** continued

continuing search for an appropriate site, with surveying and engineering assistance—a resource that committees to date have not had. Also, the fund would allow the Town to apply for grant moneys specifically aimed at such endeavors. Grant possibilities have already been identified that typically require a town to have already partly invested in a solution. Grant money would reduce the overall tax burden, but not without an initial investment by the town.

Pursuant to the above, the Selectmen would appoint a new committee to search for appropriate and available recreational sites. Criteria for sites may need to be expanded and previous sites may be revisited if still available. Time is critical because land is being bought up for new housing at a dramatic rate.

Anyone interested in being part of a new Recreation Land Committee should contact Town Hall at 588-6785.

Meanwhile, the Recreational Committee hopes to upgrade the existing Shea Field. A separate article at Town Meeting will seek \$4000 for a storage/concession shed—similar to the one at the Fire Station—for proper care of soccer frames/nets, benches, pitching machines, etc. Also, part of this shed would be used for concession sales to raise money for field maintenance and programs.

*Many thanks to Rick Wood for the information in this article.*

— Editor

## THROUGH MY KITCHEN WINDOW

By Joyce Davison

Here we are again in the middle of a New England winter. There is always the element of challenge when the thermometer dips below zero and it certainly has done more than that these past few weeks. I can no longer see the brook (Great Brook) which follows the curve of the bank that my little house sits upon, for it has slowly become buried under layers of white, like some big white comforter. There is perhaps an icy crevice and always a soft gurgle that lets you know the brook is there, but like all of us it is caught in the wintry cold. It's such fun to be able to cross the brook anywhere I want, on my snowshoes, as I plod through the woods trying to stay out of the icy wind. How fortunate I feel to have the woods and fields to go through, taking the bait of winter's challenge.

It is however, troubling to me and my neighbors that the "Lawrence Black" property across the street may become a town recreation field. Always used as pasture and a producing orchard, it is no longer owned by the Black family. Its apple trees stand out against the white snow; years ago there were always apples left on the ground for deer to dig up during the chilly fall and the following winter. I am pleased when turkeys cross the road from that field and join the pigeons and mourning doves to peck away under my bird feeders. This field is home to much wildlife, for example, fox that scoot across my lawn to drink from the brook, and this spring, my bird feeders were just about destroyed (the pole that held them didn't make it) by a lumbering, hungry bear. Tracks showed he headed out across the road and into that field! Change may have to come but I would much regret the loss of the field I've been describing.

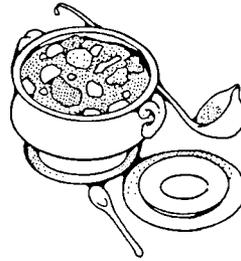
When I was a child and the sliding was as good as it is now, my brother, sister, the Cuddihy kids, the Paige kids, and once in awhile BoBo Black, used to grab our sleds and head out to Ben Tenney's field, now owned by Pat and Carole Webber. What great rides. If there was a crust and the sleds broke through, back we would go to get some big boxes (usually from Abbott's Shop), break them down into nice flat pieces and back we would go to ride the hills on cardboard. My mom would cover our cheeks with vaseline to prevent frostbite and you know, we didn't seem to mind!

This is soup weather, nice warm, hearty soup and I have a wonderful and easy chowder to share with you. This recipe comes from my daughter and, because fresh fish is so much easier to get in this day and age, I hope you will try it.

### BAKED FISH CHOWDER

2 lbs haddock or cod  
4 potatoes (peeled and sliced thin)  
3 celery leaves (chopped)  
1 bay leaf  
2 ½ tsp salt  
4 whole cloves (I use a teaspoon or so of the ground cloves)  
½ cup unsalted butter  
¼ cup dill  
¼ tsp pepper  
½ cup white wine  
2 cups boiling water  
2 cups light cream

Place the sliced potatoes, layered with the celery leaves into a 4-6 quart ungreased casserole, place the fish, cut into several large pieces, on top. Add all the rest of the ingredients except for the butter and cream. Cover the casserole and bake for 1 hour in a 375° oven. When you are sure the potatoes are tender, put cream (I use half cream and half 2% milk) and butter to heat, just to a scald, then add it gently to the potatoes and fish casserole, mixing carefully only to break up the fish and potatoes a bit. Cut up some crusty bread and toss a green salad and enjoy as the wind whips around the house.



## LIBRARY PATRONS

By Janet MacLachlan

"What's a patron?" was the question asked one Saturday at the Tuttle Library. The young girl of about 12 who asked had come in to return a book and, noticing the tray of food and pitcher of cider on the table, inquired why it was there. "It's patron appreciation week and you are welcome to have some," I replied. She disappeared for a few minutes and then suddenly she was back at the desk with a puzzled look on her young face. "What's a patron?" she asked. I realized that the word *patron* was not in her vocabulary, so I said "Well, you're one. It is anyone who uses the library, takes out materials and comes here in search of information they need." That seemed to satisfy her and we had a chat about the basketball game she had just played and lost at the school gym and then she departed. However, the

question stayed with me and I decided to check out the word *patron* in a dictionary. I hoped I hadn't given her false information.

According to the dictionary, patron is a noun and its first meaning is—anyone who supports, protects, or champions: a benefactor; a patron of the arts. The second meaning is—a regular customer. The word *patronage* is also a noun meaning support, encouragement or championship from a patron.

Those definitions describe very well the people who come into the library. There are the mothers and fathers who come in with their children to choose books and videos. Some parents take time to sit and read to their children in the children's area before leaving with their books. There are students trying to finish a school assignment due next day who need to find information either in the reference books or on the computer. Others make choices of magazines and books that suit them.

Commuters come in each Saturday to return audio books they have had out and to select new ones. They say they really enjoy listening to them as they travel distances to work and it makes travel time pass quickly while they absorb a new book. Book club members rely on the library to obtain a certain book for their readers. Additional copies are requested on Interlibrary Loans from other libraries in the state. Other patrons also use this service to find books that Tuttle Library does not have on its shelves.

The Antrim Historical Society preserves town memorabilia, records, and valuable collections in its upstairs room in the library. Those doing genealogical searches often find information there. Another upstairs room is used by Project Lift, an adult literacy program, for tutoring in reading skills.

Patrons often meet by chance in the library and exchange news and have a chat. One special patron always has an amusing story or joke to share with the others. There are patrons who love mysteries and peruse that section, asking if there are any new ones they might like. A popular question is, "What's new?" Some patrons simply like to browse through the stacks, finding older books they may have missed or looking up an author they have just discovered. There is always a search going on in the library.

Our patrons make the library an enjoyable place to be and are much appreciated. I hope I see you there some day soon. ♣

## BEATLE MANIA

By Pat Webber

*Antrim's Pat Webber had a career as Flight Engineer with Pan American Airways from 1953 to 1989.—Editor*

Returning from the Middle East in the early 1960's, after a London layover, we were taxiing out for take off when a flight attendant came to the cockpit to inform us that we had some passengers who were young musicians from Liverpool, young kids with long hair.

That was the end of it until we arrived at the new Pan Am terminal in Kennedy, where a huge crowd had gathered to greet "THE BEATLES".

In order to avoid confusion and congestion in Customs due to "Beatle Mania," we were asked to bring the musicians down the crew ladder into crew Customs with us. To our surprise, we were met at the ramp by camera crews from the media. When I arrived home, my wife told me that our children were very excited and begging to stay up late and watch the Ed Sullivan show to see and hear "The Beatles."

When I told them that I had just been on the flight with the group, I became a sudden hero in their eyes! Some years later we moved to Antrim where, to my surprise, I was often greeted with the phrase "So, you are one of the people who brought the Beatles to America."

Some of our grandchildren recently attended a Paul McCartney concert in Hartford, CT. As a video of the arrival

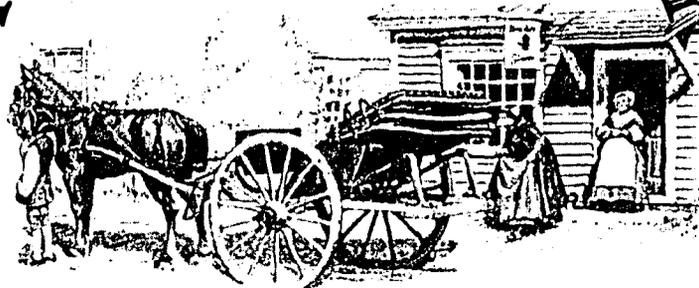
scene was shown, two of our kin stood up and shouted, "There is Grandpa with the Beatles!" I suddenly became a celebrity all over again. Now they are telling their friends what I had done years ago, a new generation of fans for "Me". If I had brought some plants back from Tokyo that were carrying Japanese beetles, I am sure that no one would have paid any attention. ♣

The Beatles debarking from Pat Webber's Pan Am plane in New York, 1964.



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## TRUCKS

By Mary Chauncey

*Mary Chauncey wrote this in memory of the late Dave Platt, a well-known Antrim dairy farmer.* —Editor

In a small town like Antrim, townspeople come to know each other not only by name but by vehicles they drive. Owning property across the river from the Platt's corn fields meant we came to know the vehicles of the Platt family very well.

First, there is the truck that makes almost a daily pilgrimage past our farm to fields in Deering. Anyone who has traveled from Fox Run Road to Old Concord Road in the heat of the summer and has been caught in a line of particularly poor smelling traffic knows what truck I'm talking about. There are the corn chopping trucks, signaling the beginning of the harvest and, with the last load of silage, the end of the harvest season. There are the family trucks: the truck that belongs to Antrim Lumber, the red truck that we once discovered with corn growing happily in its bed, and Caleb's truck, often found parked in our driveway.

And just as surely as these various trucks would make their way to and from the fields all day, around supertime we would see yet another familiar vehicle: the green truck. We all knew it was Dave Platt's and we knew he was making the rounds, checking the fields and the day's progress. This truck could also be found at our farmstand, where Dave stopped to buy corn, to chat, or to proudly show pictures of his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Dave's truck signaled the closing of the day. It reminded us it was time to reflect on the day and its accomplishments. As farmers, we are left to deal with the impulses of the weather, the fickle nature of farm equipment and the ever-changing, often difficult moods of family member. But there are some things in farming that are constant and accountable, such as the loyal voyage of a devoted farmer and friend.

We will all miss the sight of the green truck driving slowly past our farmstand. But most of all; we will miss the man behind the wheel.



## TOWN HISTORY REVISITED

### A Remarkable Antrim Partnership CAUGHEY & PRATT

By Isabel B. Nichols

When Bob Caughey and Peggy Pratt were married in 1938 there was a lot of good natured banter circulating around town about a second-generation construction company and what it would probably produce. The newlyweds were the son and daughter, respectively, of George H. ("Bert") Caughey and Henry B. ("Harry") Pratt, who had formed an alliance in 1922 for the purpose of building bridges, stone walls and other structures. The alliance was remarkable not only in the quality of their work, but in the training of their workers, and the fact that they kept men employed all through the depression when the construction business was very slow all over the country.

Both men had grown up in Waltham, MA in the last 3rd of the nineteenth century. So how did they happen to locate in Antrim, a small town of 1200 population, situated among other similar small towns? According to Ben Pratt, the younger son of that family, it all started when they were boys. Harry Pratt had relatives living at the Alabama Farm, which Dick and Ed Winslow now own, and he persuaded his friend Bert Caughey and his two brothers, John and Reuben Caughey, to ride their bicycles all the way from Waltham to Antrim, which was something of a jaunt. The connection was made and led in later years to Bert being hired to build the tennis court and stone walls at the Alabama Farm. He brought with him Italian stone masons who camped out in the fields. The Italians were skilled artisans who had emigrated to Massachusetts from the Lombardy region of northern Italy where stonework is a major industry.

One of the first jobs in town that Caughey and his workers took on was building a dam on the North Branch River in 1909. This was the brain-child of ex-Governor David Goodell who, in the absence of public power plants, had brought electricity to the town for the benefit of his cutlery factory.

From "Parades and Promenades", page 232: "Steel work gave this dam an 85-foot drop, and a penstock ran to the (power) station where an 800 horsepower electric dynamo provided energy enough for Goodell

Company and anyone else desiring it."

Wyman K. Flint was no doubt impressed by the quality of work done by the Caughey Company, and in 1912 employed them to build extensive stone walls around his family estate, now the property of the Maharishi Vedic School at the North Branch. About this time Caughey decided it was time to move his rapidly growing family to Antrim on a permanent basis, having tried one summer to live in a 20th-century version of a Conestoga Wagon.

Meanwhile, back in Waltham, Pratt was also raising a large family, and was employed as a civil engineer by the Boston firm of J.R. Worcester, which specialized in building tunnels, bridges and dams. A change in management caused Pratt to consider looking for another position, and at the same time Caughey was looking at some extensive construction work at the (now) Monadnock Paper Mills and felt the need to expand his company.

So the two old friends came together again in 1922 as a construction company, and their families were settled in the town of Antrim for the duration. Several of the Italian stone workers also chose to live in the Monadnock area; familiar names include Zanga, Azzola and Bonadrini. Pratt also brought with him many contacts, and Caughey & Pratt often took jobs as far away as Athol, MA and Derby Line, VT.

The 1920s were prosperous years for all, but they were followed by the devastating depression of the 1930s. Remarkably, Caughey and Pratt were able to keep a good many local men employed during this time. Their reputation as a reliable and economical outfit assured them of continuous work. While Caughey was an on-the-site engineer, Pratt worked on paper with dimensions and cost figures and though each man would approach a situation differently, they usually arrived at the same way to tackle a job.

In 1930 they sent a crew of men to the White Mountains to build bridges in North Woodstock and in Crawford Notch. Byron Butterfield wrote home to his family about the living conditions:

"There is a rest (tourist) camp near the bridge and we stay there. I am in a cabin with two rooms and three beds and Tony and Polly sleep in one room and I am alone in the other so far. We are boarding right here at the camp. The board is \$7.00 per week and the rooms

↳ — continued next page

**Town History** continued

are about \$1.00 a week so we are pretty well fixed for a reasonable price... This is a very nice place to work except for the midgits. The people here have to burn smudges all the time to keep them away... They didn't get into our camp any last night but they bothered Caughey so in his camp he couldn't sleep and he was up about 4 o'clock this morning."

Later: "We have six Italians staying here now and if I live with them much longer I will be talking Italian. They are all nice fellows but it gets rather monotonous listening to their jabbering after awhile."

For many years Caughey and Pratt owned the sawmill on Gregg Lake Road. This was built by William Hildreth in 1871, and was a picturesque structure nestled against the steep side of Patten Hill with Great Brook running under the building to produce water power. After the sawmill had outlived its usefulness an unsuccessful attempt was made to turn the building into a private home; it would have

made a charming spot for peaceful living.

Caughey & Pratt sold their construction business in 1941 to Ellerton "Bill" Edwards who had been their "straw boss" for many years. H.B. Pratt died the following year, but G.H. Caughey lived a comfortable life of retirement in his adopted town until 1966 when he died at the age of 89. The company later became E.H. Edwards and Son, and is now in the hands of Harry Clough and Bill Cleary, headquartered in Bennington.

Artistry in stone work can be seen in the walls bordering the Maplewood Cemetery as well as at Alabama Farm and the Verney Farm in Bennington, evidence that Caughey & Pratt made a unique contribution to the beauty of our country roads.

*In addition to Ben Pratt, contributions to this article came from Liz Robertson, Dick Winslow and Frank and Josephine (Zanga) Carrara. Technical clarity was provided by Martin Nichols.*

**ANTRIM PLAYERS CHILDREN'S THEATRE**

The Antrim Players Children's Theatre is now in rehearsal for its annual play, under the co-direction of Bill Harris and Becky Paquette. This will be the 6th performance by the group since 1999, and the play for 2004 is the musical "Peter Pan", by James M. Barrie. It will be presented at the Town Hall on Thursday and Friday, April 15 and 16 at 7 PM and on Saturday, April 17 at 1 PM. Be sure to mark the dates because seeing Peter fly across the Town Hall stage will be a treat not to be missed. General admission is \$5, and for further information call Bill Harris at 588-2024.





# ABOUT TOWN

## ANTRIM WOMAN'S CLUB

Another worthwhile fund-raising achievement was accomplished by a group of the Antrim Woman's Club who sat at Wayno's collecting townspeople's signatures on the Christmas Card and contributions for Antrim's Rescue Squad. At the January meeting of the club, Chris Baker-Salmon, Captain of the Squad, accepted a check for \$686 and expressed his thanks and appreciation. The money will be spend on diagnostic tools for the town ambulances.

At the same meeting Police Chief Brian Brown spoke about what is involved in covering the 45 square miles that is Antrim and the types of calls he responds to, from accidents to family problems. The Woman's Club meets on the second Tuesday of the month at the Baptist Church and visitors and new members are always welcome. ♣

## HOT TO TROT 4-H CLUB

By Beth Merrill

Club members will be participating in County Activities Day in Milford on March 20, hoping to earn a chance to advance to the State Activities Day in June. Marielle Twerdy has been traveling to various horse barns this winter, as she hones her skills at the county 4-H judging team practices in preparation for the state 4-H Horse Judging competition in April. Marielle earned her spot on the county team when she scored the second highest in her division at the county competition last fall.

The second annual Horse Expo will be held on June 6th at the 4-H Youth Center in New Boston. The event will feature tack shop booths, flea market tables (horse related and otherwise), riding and horse breed demonstrations, and a cowboy mounted shooting contest. Hot to Trot 4-H members and families will operate the concession stand. Proceeds go to the 4-H Horse Program in Hillsborough County.

A video set and autographed book, "Horse Follow Closely", by GaWaNi Pony Boy has been donated to the Tuttle Library by our club. Pony, as he likes to be called, is one of our country's foremost natural horsemanship trainers and he draws on his rich Native American heritage to teach others how to relate to horses with positive results. ♣

## CADETTE TROOP 2706 SENIOR TROOP 1367

By Sharon Dowling

Girl Scouts from Antrim's Cadette and Senior troops have begun visiting "Kitty Rescue and Adoption" in Jaffrey as a weekly community service project. Started just over a year ago by several women on a mission to rescue abandoned, stray and feral cats and kittens, "Kitty Rescue" has grown into quite a success story. Many people have found their *purrfect* pet there, and those cats that are just not adoptable are still assured of a safe haven at "Kitty Rescue". The scouts were trained in the daily chores of cat care (times 180!)—lots of litter boxes, dish washing, water and food bowl changes, bedding cleanup, and most importantly, cuddling and playing with those cats that appreciate the human touch. Because the Girl Scouts are there, what normally takes the volunteers over 2 hours to do, now takes 30 minutes! Lots of time left over for cat hugs and kisses.

We have also begun our monthly visits to Pheasantwood Nursing Home in Peterborough, where the scouts help with resident recreation, mail delivery, patient transport, conversation and lots of laughter. The energy the girls bring to the residents is amazing to watch!

As a group-interest badge project, the girls have decided on "From Fitness to Fashion". While each scout is able to work on any and many interest-badges individually, this one looked like a lot of fun to do together. A sleepover is definitely in the works to get this badge done.

If you were lucky, you were approached by a cookie-selling Girl Scout or Brownie in January. If you missed out, do not despair—extra cookies were ordered by most troops, and cookie booth sales will be held at various locations this spring. If you need a cookie fix, have questions or comments about the older girl scouting program in the area, or would like to volunteer time or money to a great group of young women, please contact Sharon Dowling, Leader, at 588-3459. ♣

## ANTRIM-BENNINGTON LIONS CLUB NEWS

By Bob Edwards

The Lions would like to thank everyone who helped make our Annual Christmas Tree Sale a success! We would like to especially thank Antrim Lumber and the Tenney Farm. Antrim Lumber generously allows us to store our trees and supports this project, helping in many other ways, and the Tenney Farm allows us to sell at their location as well as continually oversee the project. Through your support, we were able to sell 110 trees and make a net profit of \$1,405. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year. Through our Christmas Tree sales we are able to help fund Operation Santa as well as additional Lions Club projects.

Looking ahead to Spring we are planning on hosting a Ham and Bean Supper. Please look for posters as we get closer to Spring.

At our last Speaker Meeting, we were fortunate to have Josh Boyd from Crotched Mountain Ski Area as our guest. Josh is head of the snowmaking operation. He explained to our group the process of making snow as well as answering other questions regarding the mountain.

Next month we will have Jeff Jones as our guest speaker. Jeff will be talking about wildlife and land preservation.

We are presently in the planning stage of arranging for Ben Kilham, black bear expert from Lyme, NH, to come and speak to the community regarding black bears. This will be open to the public. We anticipate this event sometime in April. Please look for additional advertising as we approach April. We do hope you will be able to come and hear this informative presentation.

Lions, International is the largest service organization in the world, yet it is through clubs like Antrim-Bennington that we are able to help people at the grassroots level. Our primary focus is eye care and health related projects but Lions can (and do) get involved in any type of service activity. Our club is 14 members strong and we are always looking for new members. If interested in learning more about the Lions, please speak to a member or call Bob or Sarah Edwards at 588-6861. ♣



## CHURCH NEWS



Antrim Presbyterian Church  
Rev. Peggi Kephart Boyce  
588-2209

**Sunday Worship 10:30 AM**  
(nursery available for 4-year-olds and under)

**Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM**  
**Sunday School 10:30 AM**  
**Youth Ministry 11:00 AM**

Communion on the first Sunday of the month.

AA Meetings on Sundays at 7 PM

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 12 NOON

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

March 3, 10, 17, 24 7 PM Inquirers Class for new members.

April 8 6:30 PM Maundy Thursday Service

May 1 7:30-9:30 am May Breakfast

May 23 Youth Sunday (last day of Sunday School)

Revival Shop: quality used clothing. Open Saturdays from 10 AM to 4 PM.

### Baptist Church

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

**Sunday Worship 10:30 AM**  
(Nursery and junior church provided)

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 12 NOON

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

March 27 5-6:30 PM Spaghetti Dinner  
Adults \$6; Children 5-12 years \$4; Family maximum \$20. Sponsored by Club Adventure, all proceeds to benefit Heifer Project International.

March 27 7 PM Goods and Services Auction. Preview from 6-6:45 PM. Many certificates for services and goods from area businesses, handmade items, jewelry, baked goods, vaarious brand new items.

April 8 7 PM Maundy Thursday Service

April 9 12-3 PM Good Friday  
Church will be open for prayer

April 11 6:30 AM Easter Sunrise Service at the Presbyterian Church.

April 11 10:30 AM Easter Service

Antrim Antrim Church of Christ  
588-3491

### Sunday Schedule

Bible Study 10:00 AM

Worship 11:00 AM

Bible Study Ladies 7 PM Tuesdays

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY

### FEATURING LOCAL ARTISTS

Three local artists, Chauncey Berdan, Deb Berdan, and Anne Hennessy, are featured in the current display in the Historical Society room at the Tuttle Library, open for viewing during library hours.

"Three Dot Pottery" is the workplace of potters Chauncey and Deb Berdan, located at 177 Clinton Road. They are relatively new to the area, and recently held an open house at their studio in association with the Antrim Grange. Their phone number is 588-2675.

Anne Hennessy's "Wool Room" has been around much longer, featuring spinning and knitting items. Located at 218 Pleasant Street, the shop has been a popular stop on the annual Wool Arts Tour. The phone number is 588-6637.

These artists will be featured for the next three months. After the display, information gained from the exhibition will be put into the historical files so that it is available for future generations who wonder what was being created in Antrim in the early twenty-first century!

If you are an artist living in Antrim and would like to be considered to be featured by the Historical Society for 3 months, contact Dotti Penny at 464-6695 or Jacque Cottle at 588-6385. ♣

## THE LIBRARY QUILT

When Melissa Lawless, who works at the library, discovered the picture on the Internet, she had an inspiration that has led to the creation of a Library Quilt. The quilt will be raffled off as a Library fund raiser.

Joby Garrett took the picture to design her own version of the quilt and shared it with her circle of quilting friends who promptly bought fabric and enlisted other friends to help with the creation of the quilt. It has been a combined effort of making individual blocks, assembling them into a presentable order and then hand-quilting the entire quilt. Those who contributed were Pauline Robertson, Maura Pascucci, Thelma Nichols, Susan Taylor, Trudy Oesch, Joby Garrett, and Janet MacLachlan, all from Antrim, and Gail Wilson from Francetown.

You may view the quilt when it is hung in the library where raffle tickets will be available at \$1 per ticket or \$5 for 6 tickets.

J.M.

## FOLK TALES

**\$3.11 + \$2.89 = \$6.00. RIGHT?**

By Dick Winslow

Many years ago, my wife and I, having tea in a Keene restaurant, noticed a sign offering a half gallon of ice cream at a 50¢ discount with payment of the food check. Our check was for \$3.11. The half gallon of ice cream was \$2.89. Thus the total would be \$6.00, less the 50¢ discount, or \$5.50.

I took our check to the counter where a young woman with a fixed smile received me. I told her I also wanted the half gallon of ice cream. She pushed buttons on a cash register, glanced at the results and said, "that will be \$2.89." I said, no, I wanted to pay for *both* the food bill *and* the ice cream. She continued to smile, again pushed buttons, again glanced at the results and again said, "that will be \$2.89." Again I explained. Again the buttons, the smile, and "\$2.89." I said, am I going crazy or what? I want to pay for both.... Just then, an assistant manager asked if he could help. I said I was trying to pay for food and ice cream. In silence he pushed the buttons, stared at the cash register, looked puzzled and muttered to the smiling girl, "the drawer won't open." More silent staring. More button pushing. Finally he said to me, "your food bill is \$3.11 and the ice cream is \$2.89, totalling \$6.00. You get a 50¢ discount, which makes it—(more buttons were pushed, a bell rang and the cash register drawer opened)—a total of \$5.47." Since this was *still* less than I owed, I burst into laughter. The girl maintained her fixed smile. The assistant manager said defensively, "there's a tax, you know. I had to add in the tax." ♣

## NEW SHOP ON MAIN STREET

Tucked cozily between Wayno's grocery and Back Ali's Pub, Joe Bear's Boutique opened January 5th. When I stopped by to see what it is about, I was greeted by a warm, friendly atmosphere and diminutive "Catherine the Great," a Yorkshire Terrier, with her tiny newborn puppies. Owner Suki Pisarra and her assistant Rachel Fogg explained that they are a consignment store offering new and recycled children's and adult clothes, handmade quilts and gifts, imported wood craft, art objects, and books. Including a play area with stuffed animals and toys, Joe Bear's is child-friendly while parents shop. Telephone: 588-1836.

LG

## TUTTLE LIBRARY NEWS

By Melissa Lawless

### PROGRAMS

- **March 6 11 AM** "Read Across America" celebrates 100 years of Dr. Seuss for children of all ages.
- **April 3 11 AM** Community Poetry Puzzle to kick off month long Poetry Challenge for children and young adults
- **TBA** Gardening workshops with Linda Tenney

### POETRY CHALLENGE

We will be celebrating National Poetry Month in April with our annual Poetry Challenge for children and young adults. We urge the youth of Antrim to submit original poetry for publication and distribution. *This is not a contest, merely a challenge.* Please encourage your children to share their efforts with us.

### GIFT BASKET RAFFLES

Library trust funds are projected to be down 20% this year; so we will be looking to fund-raising to help us provide the same quality of service that we have provided previously. With this in mind, we will continue selling raffle tickets through March for two different gift baskets: "Relaxing Spa" and "Fantasy" for kids of all ages

### MAINTENANCE

The library is currently in major maintenance mode. Courtesy of PSNH, our lighting has been totally updated with energy saving bulbs and ballasts, which are expected to cut our energy costs by one third. Our electrical wiring is in the final stages of being brought up to code, which will hopefully make our frequent blown circuits a thing of the past. Some major renovation projects will be started down in the basement in an effort to make the basement a usable space. Drainage and dampness issues will be addressed, as well as shelving in the archives room, and the replacement of rotten structural beams.

### NEW SHELVING

Until we are able to have a new addition, we have no choice but to add taller shelving. A staff member will be happy to help you if the book of your choice is beyond your reach. Thanks to a grant from the Keith M. Sullivan Foundation, five new bookcases and one display kiosk have been purchased for the children and young adult sections. The new shelves have been constructed to our specifications and painted by staff members, a trustee, and a student volunteer. Major shifting of books is in the works—if you can't find what you are looking for, please ask! (We will try to remember where we put it.)

### HOLIDAYS

The Library will be closed on Memorial Day, Monday, May 31.

### AUTOMATION

We are making great strides in our automation process. Our books and patrons have been entered in our database, with our newest books barcoded. We are gearing up to barcode the rest of the collection, which will be a huge project requiring time, patience, and attention to detail. Before long, at the touch of a key we will be able to track what books are checked out to you, when they are due, what books are overdue, and what fines are owed. You will also be able to check the computer to see which books are available written by your favorite author. Before this process is completed, we will also have to add a barcode to your patron ID card. So dig around for those cards you have been issued. (yes, they really are important!)

### SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Wherever we look today we see heroes making a difference in our world. This summer, the children of Antrim are invited to *Check Out a Hero* at your local library. Police, teachers, firefighters, astronauts, and rescue workers are just a few of the heroes waiting for us to check out. Join us this summer for story times and activities.

### NEW FICTION

Robert J. Begiebing *Rebecca Wentworth's Distraction*; Barbara Taylor Bradford *Emma's Secret*; Clive Cussler *Trojan Odyssey*; W.E.B. Griffin *Retreat, Hell!*; John Grisham *The Last Juror*; Laurell K. Hamilton *The Laughing Corpse*; Ursula Hegi *Sacred Time*; Dean Koontz *Odd Thomas*; Jayne Ann Krentz *Truth or Dare*; John LeCarre *Absolute Friends*; Leonard Elmore *Mr. Paradise*; Marge Piercy *The Third Child*; Belva Plain *The Sight of the Stars*; Nora Roberts *Key of Valor*; John Sandford *The Hanged Man's Song*.

### NEW MYSTERIES

Susan Wittig Albert *A Dilly of a Death*; Bruce Alexander *The Price of Murder*; M.C. Beaton *Agatha Raisin and the Haunted House*; Rhys Bowen *For the Love of Mike*; Lilian Jackson Braun *The Cat Who Talked Turkey*; Rita Mae Brown *Full Cry*; Fiona Buckley *The Fugitive Queen*; Carolyn Hart *Engaged to Die*; Stuart M. Kaminsky *Midnight Pass*; Ed McBain *The Frumious Bandersnatch*; Sharon Newman *The Outcast Love*; J.D. Robb *Divided in Death*.

### NEW NON-FICTION

Bill Bryson *The Mother Tongue*; Michael Caduto *A Time Before New Hampshire*; Gen. Wesley K. Clark *Winning Modern Wars*; Rafe

Esquith *There Are No Shortcuts* (biography); Jon Meacham *Franklin and Winston*; Sara Nelson *So Many Books, So Little Time*.

### YOUNG ADULT NON-FICTION

Chris Smith *The Lord of the Rings: Weapons & Warfare*. ♣

### Lutheran Shelter continued

classes taught by two certified teachers and an assistant. A psychologist comes once a week for counseling and there is a recovery program for those who have been involved in drugs and alcohol. The shelter is staffed around the clock by attendants who work in 3 shifts. On Thursdays a family teaching program enables the girls to go out and learn to ski or snowshoe, or in the warmer seasons, go kayaking or mountain climbing. These activities provide new life experiences, giving the girls chances to know a wider world and do things they haven't had an opportunity to do before. They also learn such things as knitting and sewing, and they practice drumming which is a favorite activity. These are new life and social skills which can help boost self-confidence.

### NEW ARRIVALS

When a new girl arrives, there is a welcome bundle of personal care products, plus books, a journal and pen provided by a local church group. A Bible Study group comes once a week in the evening and this is well attended. The Monadnock Quilter's Guild donated colorful quilts which the girls have enjoyed having on their beds and may take with them when they leave. Randa Tenney said that contributions of clothing for teenage girls are always much appreciated. Household furnishings such as curtains, bedding and furniture are also very useful and needed.

### VISITS FROM PARENTS

Parents may come to visit their daughters while they are living in the Shelter though some live too far away to do so. Girls from the local Girl Scout troops make a monthly visit and have a program with the girls. Randa Tenney said the staff at the Shelter sometimes receives letters from former students who tell them how their lives are progressing and thank them for guidance and help at a difficult time in their teenage years. These letters are gratifying for the staff to receive.

### OPEN HOUSE

An Open House is planned for this summer and Randa hopes many people in Antrim who have been curious about the Shelter will come and meet them to see what they are accomplishing. ♣

## GREAT BROOK SCHOOL

By Barbara Black

### MORE THAN JUST WORDS

What is language without the culture? As all students at Great Brook School learn French and Spanish this year, they are also exploring the cultures of other countries. In addition to their work in language classes, students have the opportunity to participate in an afterschool program. Spanish and French clubs meet alternating Friday afternoons. There students have an opportunity to explore French and Spanish culture through activities, movies, and conversation

In addition Silva Vargas has become a frequent visitor to Great Brook School. She visits with Spanish classes to share her experiences and the culture of Argentina. Ms Vargas has been working at Crotched Mountain to improve her English. Her visits with Great Brook Students give her an opportunity to practice her newly learned English skills while enriching students' lessons with interesting stories about Argentina.

### COOKS' CORNER

Hopefully, many of you have had the opportunity to attend one of the monthly community suppers. Did you know that many of the desserts at the Antrim and Bennington suppers were provided by Great Brook Students? As part of their Consumer and Family Studies classes, Nancy Blair's students have adopted this project as a way to integrate curriculum with service to the community.

Cookies, dessert bars, such as brownies, blondies, and pumpkin squares, and cupcakes have been produced by the dozens. Students have used a variety of recipes and techniques, such as using sugar substitutes, to create low calorie treats. This project has provided students an opportunity to use their developing skills to fill a community need.

### LOONEY TUBES TAKE THE PENGUIN PLUNGE

The water was 37 degrees. The air temperature 20 degrees with gusting winds. Six brave (or "looney", depending on your point of view) Great Brook Staff waited for the signal to plunge into the Atlantic Ocean. On February 8th, Helene Newbold, Pat Berry-Kevan, Nicki Janulis, Erik Anderson, Pat Maynard, and Beth San Martino and her sister Mary Ellen joined 700 others at Hampton Beach to raise money for the New Hampshire Special Olympics. Wearing their trademark innertubes, the Great Brook Looney Tubes prepared to honor their pledge to friends, family, and fellow staff members - in exchange for over \$2000 in donations, the merry band took the icy plunge.

2004 proved a record year for this annual fundraiser. Over \$378,000 was raised statewide to support programs for New Hampshire Special Olympians. A good time for a good cause—what a way to beat the mid winter blues!

### UNDER CONSTRUCTION

For many years fifth graders at GBS have studied the Great Brook Watershed, its importance to Antrim and its contributions to the Contoocook and Merrimack River Watersheds. With the help of ELP teacher Beth Frost, two fifth grade classes will construct a 3D scale model of the watershed to hang in the Great Brook School cafeteria.

In January students learned to use the GIS (Global Information System) program to create customized maps of the watershed. Starting with standard topographic maps, students added layers of information. Rivers and streams that form the watershed formed one layer. Students marked the highest mountains and drew lines to connect them to show the edges of the watershed. Roads and dams were added as reference points.

### GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM

In February students experimented with the concept of scale. They will need to create a distance and height scale suitable for the space available for their map. Over February vacation students are collecting a variety of materials from which they can construct their map. The map must be light weight enough to fasten to the wall, yet durable. The materials must be malleable enough to show gradual changes in elevation and cost efficient.

In March, pairs of students will construct sample models from a variety of materials and then select the best of these for the large map. Each model must include a mountain, stream, and lake since these will be the most challenging features on the watershed map.

Students will also be studying the history of the Great Brook mills. They will use Global Positioning System portable units to record the position of mills that once utilized the water power of Great Brook. Mill locations will be marked on their map and corresponding narratives will tell the story of each mill.

If you would like to help with the project, either with construction ideas or with personal memories of the mills, please call Anne Kenney or Barbara Black at GBS (588-6630).

### GBS MEDIA CENTER GOES WIRELESS

Good-bye large heavy wooden card catalogs - welcome to the twenty-first century. Over the past two years Great Brook media specialist Jane Gnade has been phasing in a computer-based catalog system. Students use

the Spectrum program to search for books. Just like the old card catalog, the search may be done by title, author, or subject. In addition, key words may be used for the search. Students click on selections which meet their needs; the list can be saved and printed for immediate or future use.

Students can use computers in the media center, computer room, and some classrooms for their search. Eventually access will be possible from all classrooms. Just before February vacation two standing wireless stations were installed in the media center. ♣

## A STAR IS BORN!

### AT ANTRIM TOWN HALL

"Things happen in the theatre", announced Director Bill Nichols just before the opening curtain of the December 13th performance of "Nuncrackers" by the Antrim Players. "That's why we have understudies. One of our lead actors developed a bad case of laryngitis today, and the part of Sister Mary Hubert will be played tonight by Heather Dickson, who just found out she was an understudy."

Heather is a newcomer to the Players, having just moved here from Florida, and not liking our weather! She had five hours to learn lines and songs, but having been a theatre major at the University of West Florida she was up for the job, not only turning in a creditable performance, but bringing the audience to its feet with her rendition of the gospel song, "It's Better to Give than to Receive".

It was just like the movies. In fact Director Bill might have used that oft-quoted line from "Forty-second Street": "You're going out there a youngster but you've got to come back a star!" Things do indeed happen, and the cast and crew of "Nuncrackers" were delighted to have been part of this happening.

Nowadays you can get a glimpse of Heather's smiling face behind the counter at the T-Bird, but who knows, you may someday see that face on your TV screen, or in the movies. ♣

## THE NURSE IS IN

Home Healthcare, Hospice and Community Services will offer a FREE "The Nurse Is In" clinic at Antrim Village, March 16 from 11 AM to NOON. No appointment is necessary. Have your blood pressure checked. Ask our registered nurse about cholesterol, high blood pressure, and other health concerns. The nurse will answer your questions or refer you to your local health professional. For more information, call Working for Wellness at HCS at 352-2253 or 800-541-4145, or visit our website at [www.hcsservices.org](http://www.hcsservices.org). ♣

## THE GRAPEVINE

By Kristen Vance, Director

### THE TIME DOLLARS PROJECT

Imagine this: The temperature been well below zero for a week. All the pipes in your home have been frozen solid for four days. You've been trying to get a plumber to take a look, but they're all busy helping others. What do you do? You call your local "Time Dollars" coordinator, who gives you the name of a retired plumber in Bennington. The plumber restores your water in 4 hours, at a cost of 4 Time Dollars. You work off your debt by taking an elderly neighbor to a doctor's appointment in Concord. The plumber spends his 4 Time Dollars on the services of a teen who splits his firewood. The teen spends her 4 Time Dollars on math tutoring by a neighbor. And so on.

The Grapevine is organizing a neighbor-helping-neighbor project, based on the successful Time Dollars model, in the towns of Antrim, Hancock, Bennington and Frankestown. The concept is elegant in its simplicity. One hour of service equals one Time Dollar. An hour of advice from a lawyer is worth the same as an hour of childcare by a teen or an hour of bedside visiting. Everyone's contribution has equal value. The Time Dollars you earn helping others can be used to receive services or help from someone else. When you spend your Time Dollars, someone else earns them. They can be saved up for a rainy day. They can be given to someone else, a family member, friend, or neighbor who needs help. Time Dollars spent and earned are tracked by a coordinator, who issues monthly "Time Bank statements" to each participant.

Funding for the 4-town Time Dollars project was awarded to The Grapevine in December by the Nielsen Fund of the Monadnock Community Foundation. The project is a result of the work of a group of folks from Antrim, Hancock, Bennington and Frankestown, the same group that started the Thursday night community suppers. The 4-town group has been meeting regularly with The Grapevine over the past year to discuss the health and well-being of people in our community, and the wealth of resources—both tapped and untapped—in our towns. Time Dollars has been used successfully in many communities in the U.S. and abroad to discover and mobilize the untapped resources.

Time Dollars is based on four core values: 1) everyone has strengths and assets; 2) raising children and building community is valuable work; 3) mutual support is more powerful and empowering than one-way helping; and 4) trust is the basis for community.

There are some great opportunities for youth involvement in this endeavor. Sugges-

tions at our last 4-town group meeting included middle and/or high school students creating an inventory of community assets (individual skills and talents) through interviews and other means, project guidance through participation in the 4-town group, and participating in the resulting project by trading their skills. We welcome other ideas, and encourage youth, parents, teachers, youth group leaders and others to call us.

### PROJECT COORDINATOR

The Grapevine's center in the Aiken Street Barn will serve as the base of operations for the Time Dollars project. The project coordinator, who we expect to hire by March 1, will be out in the community, talking with people and groups about the project. He or she will use the Time Dollars software to set up a "banking" system for Time Dollars earned and spent, will coordinate services traded and generally run the program. The 4-town group will be both an advisory board and a work group, helping the project coordinator to get to know folks in the towns and assisting with the planning and organizing. We expect to have the project up and running by June 1.

Time Dollars projects can be found in the United Kingdom and in 30 states in the U.S. We are not aware of any other Time Dollars projects in New Hampshire. For more information about other Time Dollars projects, visit [www.timedollar.org](http://www.timedollar.org). If you have ideas or questions about our local project, please call Kristen Vance at The Grapevine.

### HANCOCK JOINS COMMUNITY SUPPERS

Now that the renovation of the Hancock Congregational Church vestry is complete, Hancock will join Antrim, Bennington and Frankestown in offering free community suppers. The supper rotation is as follows:

- 1st Thursday of the month: Frankestown Community Church
- 2nd Thursday of the month: Bennington Pierce School
- 3rd Thursday of the month: Antrim First Presbyterian Church
- 4th Thursday of the month: Hancock Congregational Church Vestry

Suppers begin at 5:30, and all are welcome.

### PREVENTING THE GAP WITH YOUR TEENAGER

A 6-week course for parents of 10 to 14-year-olds, facilitated by Carol Lunan, M.Ed. Carol will guide us as we grapple with how to stay connected with our children as they approach the teenage years. We will look at the changes our children go through, ways to keep the lines of communication open, and how to help our children make healthy decisions so that we can feel more comfortable about letting go when the time is right.

Carol is The Learning Vine teacher at The Grapevine, and a parent educator at The Family Center in Peterborough. Before that, Carol was an educator at the Harris Center in Hancock and a teaching director at Happy Valley in Peterborough. Carol is the mother of two grown children, and she lives in Frankestown.

The course is on Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30, beginning April 8, at The Grapevine. The fee for the 6-week course is from \$10 to \$80, depending on your family's income. Enrollment is limited to 15 people, on a first-come, first-served basis. Please call 588-2620 to register.

### STRONG LIVING FOR SENIORS

Thanks to organizer Carolyn Gilmore, organizer and trainer Betty Avery, and trainer Corinne Canfield, the Strong Living program is up and running at The Grapevine. The first 12-week session began February 6, and meets Tuesdays and Fridays from 1:30 to 2:30. The class is full, but adults 50 years of age or older who are interested are encouraged to call The Grapevine about future classes. Strong living is a community-based exercise program for older adults created by physiologists from Tufts University. Our thanks to the Antrim-Bennington Lions Club and Frameworks, Inc. for contributions toward the cost of weights and chairs.

### THE LEARNING VINE It's not too early to pre-register for the Fall!

The Learning Vine parent-cooperative preschool invites families interested in the program for next year to visit the classroom early this spring, to meet other families and talk with the teacher, Carol Lunan M.Ed. The program provides children with creative opportunities for hands-on learning, both in the classroom and in the community. Encouragement and mutual respect are guiding principles as the children experiment with making choices and discover their unique gifts. Please call to schedule a visit.

### BETTER BEGINNINGS

Our play-and-learn groups have been exploring one color each month since early January (Purple!) through play and social experiences. Children enjoyed art activities (painting, collage, etc.), sensory play (water, crazy cream, play dough), quiet activities (books, drawing corner), songs, dress up and other fun learning activities. As we move into spring the program will continue featuring a color each month, as well as outdoor activities, early gardening and more. We invite new children to join us this spring!

— continued next page

**BETTER BEGINNINGS  
GUEST PRESENTERS**

The following is a sample of parent group guests slated for the spring months:

- Judy Fournier of Project Lift and Even Start in Hillsborough
- Grapevine alumna Margot Russell will talk about home schooling her 2 children
- Another alumna will speak about anxiety disorders, substance abuse and treatments
- An Antrim parent will talk about simultaneously raising a two-year-old and a teenager

**BETTER BEGINNINGS FOR BABIES**

Each Friday the babies enjoy exploring The Grapevine baby room where they discover books, scarves for peek-a-boo and dancing, gross motor activities, a nutritious snack, and lots of social time with other babies. Parent discussions have focused on the many joys and challenges of life with baby, including sleep, feeding, sibling relationships, stress and stress reduction. Expectant parents and parents of infants are invited to drop in Fridays at 10am.

**SPECIAL APRIL VACATION  
BETTER BEGINNINGS EVENT**

Join us on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings during the vacation week for "Together Time at the Grapevine: A Week Of Royalty," when the Royal Court will come alive right here in Antrim! Crown making, royal gardens and other crafts, tea and scones, dress up, stories and puppet shows about kings and queens, and more, for the young and young at heart.

**PARENT-CHILD PROGRAMS**

- Mondays 9:30 to 11:30 Better Beginnings playgroup (18 mos. to 2 1/2 years)
- Mondays 3:30 to 5pm Teen and Young Parents playgroup
- Tuesdays 9:30 to 11:30 Better Beginnings playgroup (2 1/2 to 4 year olds)
- Wednesdays 9:30 to 11:30 The Learning Vine Preschool
- Thursdays 9:30 to 11:30 Better Beginnings playgroup (mixed ages)
- Fridays 9:30 to 11:30 The Learning Vine Preschool
- Fridays 10:00 to 11:30 Better Beginnings for Babies

The Teen and Young Parents playgroup is free. Better Beginnings and The Learning Vine are offered on sliding scale fees, depending on your family's income. All families are welcome.

**THANK YOU TO ...**

- Nancy and Terry Benda, for a fabulous Dell computer system
- Andi Pond, Hillsboro, for a good, sturdy vacuum cleaner (and Dave and Dotti Penny, for letting Andi know we needed one!)

- The Tuttle Library, for ongoing book sharing
- Chauncey Berdan, for almost new microwave
- Connie Vandervort, for resources and ideas for our Better Beginnings color themes
- All who have supported our work with financial contributions, volunteer time, donated toys, clothing and other essentials, thank you!

**SERVICES AT THE GRAPEVINE**

• **Information, Referral & Assistance:** Information about area resources for financial assistance, food, childcare, legal assistance, clothing, health and dental care, and other needs.

• **Wood Bank:** Free firewood for families and individuals who use wood to heat their homes and cannot afford to buy firewood.

• **Heating Fuel & Electric Assistance** for eligible families, provided by Southern NH Services Thursday mornings through March.

• **Child & Family Counseling** provided by Monadnock Family Services by appointment. Sliding scale fee.

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

• **Community Suppers:** If you'd like to go but need a ride, give us a call.

Call The Grapevine at 588-2620 for more information about programs and services, or to register for programs. We welcome visits.

**ABOUT OUR FUNDING**

The Grapevine is a community-based non-profit service organization. We rely on financial support from local people and businesses for about 45% of our funding. Contributions to The Grapevine are tax deductible, and can be mailed to PO Box 637, Antrim NH 03440. Thank you for supporting our families and our community.

Financial contributors to The Grapevine include Monadnock Paper Mills, Hillsborough County Incentive Funds, Monadnock Community Foundation, NH Children's Trust Fund, Monadnock Community Hospital, BridgeBuilders Foundation, The Robin Colson Memorial Foundation, NH Ball Bearing, New England Presbytery, Granite Bank, NH Dept. of Health and Human Services, Antrim-Bennington Lions Club, Rick & Diane's, Cricenti's, the First Presbyterian Church in Antrim, Antrim Baptist Church, Edmunds' Hardware, Peterborough Unitarian Church, Associated Grocers and many people and businesses in Antrim and nearby towns. Many community members, local helping organizations and businesses also donate time, talents, and supplies. Thank you! ♣

**THE PROFILING GAME**

By Connie Kirwin

I'm sure you've all read about FBI profiling and have heard the expression "You are what you eat." I recently watched an auto commercial on TV where the announcer proclaimed, "You are what you drive." I thought it would be fun to play the game of matching the vehicles people drive with the foods they eat. Here are some combinations.

**Audi:** chicken tandoori and a Starbucks double latte. **BMW:** lobster and champagne. **Buick LaSabre:** catch of the day and house wine. **Cadillac Seville:** fried chicken and Bourbon and branch water. **Chevrolet Blazer:** corn dogs and Coors beer. **Chevrolet Corvette:** nachos and a Margarita. **Chevrolet Impala:** macaroni and cheese and a Dr Pepper. **Chevrolet Silverado:** burger and fries and a Miller. **Chrysler PT Cruiser:** cheese fondue and a Brandy Alexander. **Chrysler Town and Country:** steak and scotch and water. **Dodge Durango:** hot dogs, beans and a Bud. **Dodge Ram:** stewed possum and moonshine. **Ford Mustang:** quesadilla and Tequila shots. **Ford Thunderbird:** meatloaf, apple pie and coffee. **Honda Accord:** hot dogs, beans, brown bread and a Sam Adams. **Hummer:** venison and stump juice. **Hundai Elantra:** scampi and rose wine. **Infiniti:** eggs benedict and a Mimosa. **Jaguar:** steak tartare and a bottle of Dom Perignon. **Jeep Grand Cherokee:** gumbo and a Jax beer. **Land Rover:** gorp and mineral water. **Lexus:** beef Wellington and Glenfiddich. **Lincoln Town Car:** cucumber sandwiches and Earl Grey tea. **Mercedes-Benz:** salade niçoise and a Cosmopolitan. **Mercury Grand Marquis:** prime rib and rye and water. **Mini Cooper:** bangers and mash and a pint. **Nissan Pathfinder:** pu-pu platter and Scorpion Bowl. **Pontiac Grand Prix:** barbeque, biscuits and Dixie beer. **Porche:** sashimi and a martini. **Saab:** quiche and white wine. **Subaru:** Cesar salad and a T&T. **Toyota Camry:** meatloaf special and a Moxie. **Toyota Land Cruiser:** Bocaburger, humus and soy milk. **Toyota Tacoma:** pizza and a Bud. **Volkswagen Jetta:** bratwurst and May wine. **Volkswagen Beetle:** diet cola. **Volvo:** granola, tofu and organic cider. ♣

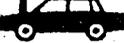
**WILLIAM SLOAN COFFIN**

The famous civil rights activist, having been diagnosed with a terminal illness, was interviewed by a reporter. "He only longs to live to see the fall elections. And then, he said, 'I might want to live a little bit longer—or die immediately.'"

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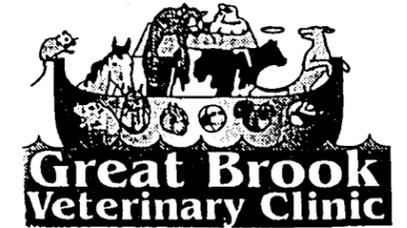
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## ANTRIM COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### March

- 3 ANTRIM COMMUNITY GRANGE Business Meeting
- 3, 10, 17, 24 INQUIRERS CLASS • Presbyterian Church
- 6 READ ACROSS AMERICA - Dr. Seuss • Tuttle Library • 11:00 AM
- 8 HOME & HARVEST DAY meeting • 6:30 PM • Rick & Diane's Restaurant
- 9 VOTE • Antrim Town Hall • 8:00 AM – 7:00 PM
- 10 HOT to TROT 4-H Meeting
- 11 TOWN MEETING • Town Gym at Great Brook School • 7:00 PM
- 16 "THE NURSE IS IN" • Antrim Village • 11:00 AM – 12 NOON
- 17 ANTRIM COMMUNITY GRANGE Program Meeting
- 20 4-H COUNTY ACTIVITIES DAY • Milford
- 24 HOT to TROT 4-H Meeting
- 27 SPAGHETTI DINNER • Baptist Church • 5:00 – 6:30 PM
- 27 GOODS AND SERVICES AUCTION • Baptist Church • 7:00 PM

### April

- 3 COMMUNITY POETRY PUZZLE • Tuttle Library • 11:00 AM
- 7 ANTRIM COMMUNITY GRANGE Business Meeting
- 8 MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE • Presbyterian Church • 6:30 PM
- 8 MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE • Baptist Church • 7:00 PM
- 11 EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE • Presbyterian Church • 6:30 AM
- 14 HOT to TROT 4-H Meeting
- 15 ANTRIM PLAYERS CHILDRENS THEATRE • "Peter Pan"  
Town Hall Auditorium • 7:00 PM
- 16 ANTRIM PLAYERS CHILDRENS THEATRE • "Peter Pan"  
Town Hall Auditorium • 7:00 PM
- 17 ANTRIM PLAYERS CHILDRENS THEATRE • "Peter Pan"  
Town Hall Auditorium • 1:00 PM
- 21 ANTRIM COMMUNITY GRANGE Auction • Antrim Town Hall • 7:00 PM
- 28 HOT to TROT 4-H Meeting

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## **ANTRIM COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

- May
- 1 **MAY BREAKFAST** • 7:30–9:30 AM • Presbyterian Church
  - 5 **ANTRIM COMMUNITY GRANGE Business Meeting**
  - 12 **HOT to TROT 4-H Meeting**
  - 19 **ANTRIM COMMUNITY GRANGE "AWARDS" NIGHT** • 7:00 PM
  - 23 **YOUTH SUNDAY** • Presbyterian Church
  - 26 **HOT to TROT 4-H Meeting**



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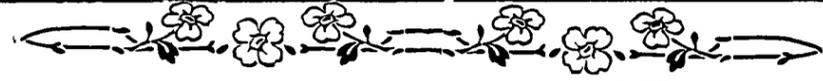
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