

LUTHERAN GIRLS SHELTER NEW CONSTRUCTION ON MAIN STREET

By Dick Winslow

The building fronting on Main Street right across from Edmunds' store is noticeable both for its Victorian façade with a unique arch over its front entrance and, lately, because of construction activities. Work on a large new addition began last May with demolition of the rear portion of the house, and the barn, to provide space. The addition, which will be finished and operational before Christmas, contains eight bedrooms, four baths, a classroom, offices and other amenities. It will allow the Shelter to house 15 girls in light, airy, spacious quarters where previously only 12 girls were accommodated in cramped quarters.

Randa Tenney, the Shelter's resident program manager, told this reporter, "It's a dream come true," and gave him a tour of the facility that showed why. Not only will there be the spacious bedrooms and adequate offices but there will also be a fine classroom, a reception area, a large multi-purpose room for meetings, recreational and other activities, a computer room with eight computers and a spe-

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ANNUAL TREE LIGHTING AT MEMORIAL PARK

SUNDAY DECEMBER 4 at 4 PM

The Antrim Friends of Recreation Holiday Tree Lighting Festivities will start at Memorial Park with the local scouts decorating the tree and the GBS chorale singing Christmas carols. Santa Claus will arrive by fire truck and then lead a parade over to the Town Hall where refreshments will be served and kids will be able to visit with Santa.

This event is planned to take place regardless of weather. If you would like to participate or have any questions, please call the Recreation Office at 588-3121.

CONVAL SCHOOL BOARD

By Tom Lawless, Antrim Board Member

In an effort to increase communication between the Conval School Board and the communities we serve, the Board has decided to skip a monthly meeting and instead hold a local meeting in each town to explain who we are and what we do, as well as listen to your concerns. Bill McKinnon and I have planned out a meeting on Tuesday, December 6th at the Antrim Town Hall, between 6:30 and 9PM. Funding the School District is a substantial part of every household budget, and so every one of us has a vested interest in seeing that the District succeed in its mission of providing the best education possible. We want to hear your concerns. So please stop by.

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MAPLEHURST INN RESTORATION

By Janet MacLachan

The Maplehurst Inn on Antrim's Main Street is undergoing a much-needed restoration by its new owner Juliet Ermitano who acquired the property at auction earlier this year. If her name sounds familiar, it is because she is also the new owner of the Antrim Marketplace across the street. Just as she renovated that building and made it into an attractive shopping area, she now has similar plans for the inn. This time, however, she is working with a much older building which she has discovered needs much more attention to bring it up to safety standards. As a first step, the rear of the building was jacked up to create a more level structure. This caused some buckling in the walls at the back of the building, and these had to be re-plas-

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SELECTMAN SEEKS NEW RESOURCE



"Maybe a new fire truck and two bridges. A backhoe for the road crew and a new roof for the town hall..."

SELECTMEN

By Ben Pratt for the Board

It has been a hectic summer and fall but, except for the decorative streetlights and marking of the crosswalks, the Main Street Improvement Project is complete. The crosswalks may be done by the time this is printed, but it looks now as if the lights will not be installed until next spring. The Southwest Regional Planning Commission has notified us that our application for the Phase II Sidewalk Improvement has been recommended for approval. We will hear in April if it has received final approval, in which case construction would occur in 2007.

 continued on page 2

EDITORIAL

As of this issue, Lyman Gilmore becomes the Limrik's Managing Editor, succeeding me in that position. We are fortunate to have him. He knows the publication inside out. He is a stylish writer, is gifted with organizational ideas, and has a keen sense of Antrim priorities.

I have been honored to have served as the Limrik's Managing Editor for the past dozen years. As my grandchildren might say, it's been a blast! Meanwhile, I'm continuing as a contributing writer.

— Dick Winslow

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

E-mail your letters to the *Limrik* in care of Lyman Gilmore. The address is: L_gilmore@conknet.com

CREDITS

Cartoon on page 1 was created by Russ Russell, Art Director.

NEWS DEADLINE

News deadline is the 10th of the month preceding each issue. Issues are published in December, March, June, and September. For the next issue, copy deadline is February 10. Please e-mail your article to:

Lyman Gilmore at: L_gilmore@conknet.com

THE MONADNOCK PAPER MILLS

The paper on which this *Limrik* is printed has been generously donated by The Monadnock Paper Mills. For this, the *Limrik* is very grateful.

Selectmen continued

In October we sustained substantial flood damage. The Police Dept., Fire Dept. and Emergency Management personnel all gave yeoman service, and, thanks to the excellent work of our highway department and local contractors, we were able to make emergency repairs and get all the roads and bridges back in service within a few days. Our immediate costs due to the flooding are in the vicinity of \$100,000 and we expect to be reimbursed for most of that from state and federal funds. Permanent repairs, to be done in the spring, are expected to be between \$500,000 and \$700,000. About 90% of those costs should be covered by state and federal funds.

We had not expected to have to borrow any funds in anticipation of taxes, but the flood damage changed all that, so we have applied for and received approval to borrow up to \$300,000. We should only need that for about thirty days before our tax receipts begin to come in.

The flood slowed up the Summer Street project, but the road should be paved and open for traffic by Nov. 25th. We are hopeful that the dam repairs can be completed this fall, but that will depend on the weather. We need a few more weeks of Indian Summer!

As this is written, we have not formally received our tax rate from the Dept. of Revenue Administration, but we expect it will be virtually the same as last year. Work is underway on the Budget and the Capital Improvement Plan, and we have been receiving excellent cooperation from all departments in planning for next year and the long-term needs of the town.

We are required to reevaluate 25% of the town each year, and that is in the process of being done. The property cards are being updated, but this will not have any effect on anyone's taxes this year.

The Town of Antrim has engaged Cartographic Associates, Inc. to prepare a digital map which will accurately show each lot and property line in the entire town. The map will also show the location of fire hydrants, manholes, water and sewer lines and will eventually include information on culverts, catch basins, etc. When complete, it will be a valuable resource for all the departments in town. A preliminary draft of the downtown area has been received and gives evidence of the successful progress of the project. As work progresses, we will have a copy of the map available in the Town Office for everyone to see.

To sum up, it looks as if we are in good shape. The Main Street project is essentially complete and Phase II is in the planning stage. Summer Street is about to be reopened and, with good luck with the weather, that entire project should be complete this fall. Financially, we are close to where we should be at this time of year with town expenses, and it appears that our tax rate will remain steady for the coming year.

Have a happy holiday season! ❁

IN THE MILITARY

A number of area residents are now serving in the US Military, some in the states and others around the world.

Joel Schacht. Private Schacht is an equipment mechanic engineer with the US Marines. He is currently stationed at Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri awaiting assignment in supporting operation Iraqi Freedom.

Joel's family in Antrim are his parents, Steve and Mary Schacht, and a brother, Aaron Hyer.

Please contact Pam Caswell at 588-2906 if you have news about someone serving in the military. ❁

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

PRESENTED TO PLANNING BOARD

By Alexander Snow

Antrim's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) committee submitted its 2005 capital improvement plan to the Planning Board in November. The plan lists anticipated major expenditures for 2006 – 2011. Major projects in a capital improvement plan can include, but are not limited to, buying new fire equipment, improving roads, repairing bridges, acquiring open space, improving recreational opportunities, building or repairing town facilities, etc. Basically, they are the big ticket items that can put a strain on a town's annual operating budget if they are not planned in advance.

A capital improvement program is much like a family thinking beyond its yearly budget and trying to figure out when it will have to put on a new roof, paint the house, send a child to college, trade-in the family car, and how it will save and pay for these expenses.

This is not the first year Antrim has prepared a capital improvement program. However, it is the first time a committee of residents and town officials has formalized the process and looked into the proposed expenditures, priority, scheduling, and funding. The eight-member committee is a broad spectrum of town officials and residents. Members are: Mary Allen; Diane Chauncey; Ron Haggett, selectman; Bill Prokop, town administrator; Brian Sawich, planning board; myself (chairman), planning board; Missy Taylor, and Paul Vasques, planning director.

The committee spent more than four months looking at the town's future needs. To start, it sent requests to each department asking it to identify future projects/improvements, the reasons for them, funding required, and cash available for them. The committee defined capital improvements as those costing \$5,000 or more and which are not considered normal maintenance items.

After reviewing the requests, the committee devoted three meetings to discussing many aspects of each request with department representatives.

Overall, the committee reviewed more than 50 individual projects/improvements from 12 critical areas of town services and departments: ambulance, A.R.T.S., conservation/open space, economic development, fire, highway, library, mitigation,

parks and recreation, police, town buildings, and water and sewer.

The committee considered which programs were most critical, which could be put off to the future, and how to juggle programs to minimize the impact on taxes while providing the facilities and services in a timely fashion. In some cases department heads were asked to consider different approaches to programs where efficiencies could be identified and taken advantage of.

Funding, obviously, was a major consideration. Fees, income, money already in reserve, grants, bonds, fund raising, etc. were reviewed. The committee also considered how much money would have to be set aside annually to meet the remaining costs. These are the annual reserve appropriations.

In preparing its final report, the committee estimated the capital improvements' impact on the town's tax rate for each of the next six years. One of the important goals was to keep the impact as level as possible for those years. It projected the town's assessed property value for each year and estimated the cost per \$1,000 of property value. For 2005 the capital improvement costs were \$2.98 per \$1,000 of assessed property value.

Some of the key requests considered in this year's CIP plan are library addition plans, open space acquisition, economic development funding, highway garage construction, and police department expansion.

As of this writing, the plan was scheduled for presentation Nov. 17 to the Planning Board for its review. The board then will send its recommendations to the selectmen for their consideration. Ultimately, the plan will go before the annual town meeting.

The committee has recommended to the Planning Board that a permanent Capital Improvement Committee be established. Creating an annual CIP is a vital tool for Antrim's long range planning. It is very important to continue to identify on an annual basis what the town's future capital needs will be. Some programs may be dropped or delayed and certainly others will be added as Antrim's needs change. For residents and taxpayers the CIP should help reduce the "surprises" that sometime occur when new projects suddenly appear in the budget, and it should provide reassurance that Antrim is planning not only for its immediate needs but for its foreseeable future.

The committee now will turn its attention to its next task of preparing a new master plan for the town. ❁

Lutheran Girls Shelter continued

cially-equipped bedroom for any handicapped girl who might need it.

When asked for an opinion about the architectural design of the new structure—the way it connects the new structure with the historic old ones—Ms. Tenney spoke with admiration of Warren Architects and their success in blending the old with the new. She also spoke gratefully of the way Hutter Construction workers have shown consideration for the needs of the ongoing program.

Antrim's building inspector, Jeff Parsons, gives high praise to the architect, the contractor and the Lutheran group which is footing the bill. "They've done it right!" he says.

Watch for an announcement of an Open House, probably in January. It should be well worth attending.

TAXES

The million and a half dollar (plus) value of the new construction will add sufficiently to Antrim's property tax base that the town will realize an annual income of about thirty thousand dollars.

OPTION TO BUY

Lutheran Community Services of New Hampshire, owner of the Antrim Girls Shelter, holds an option to buy the land in front of our post office. It now appears they will be exercising that option. If that happens, we may expect the space to be turned into something very attractive. ❁

GLEANINGS

By Agricola

TASTY BEAVER

Not many beaver trappers around any more, but if you really need one, head over to Platt's farm of a morning and catch Chris Platt while he's milking. I did that the other day because of the flooding on Pleasant Street. You see, the wife and I take the dog for a nightly walk on Pleasant Street, and more often than not there's a big puddle right where the road dips down past the swamp. Doug Tatro, whose land borders the swamp (I guess we're supposed to say "wetlands" these days), told me the flooding is caused by big beaver dams upstream on the edge of the woods, and that Chris was trapping the dam-builders for the town.

When I got to the Platt farm, I knew I was in the right place because there was a big skinned beaver hanging on a tree limb to cure. I found Chris in the milking room where he had two cows hooked up and four more waiting their turns. He said there's probably a family of four or five beaver causing the dam trouble south of Pleasant Street. He's got two of them—one forty-seven pounds—and should get the others soon. Aside from helping the town keep its road from flooding, Chris likes trapping beaver for several reasons: he has loved trapping since he was twelve, he enjoys eating the meat—dark, tender, and tasty—and he gets about twenty dollars per pelt from a Canadian company that sends them to China and Russia for the hat trade. I'll just have to take his word on tasty beaver.

DOTTI AND DAVE PENNY HELP KATRINA VICTIMS

Ex Antrimites Dotti and Dave Penny spent the better part of a month as Red Cross volunteers in rural Louisiana helping victims of hurricane Katrina obtain funds to repair their damaged houses. Working as a team, they would drive a Red Cross van out of Baton Rouge each morning and head south for an hour to find isolated cabins and farms deep in the woods. Their job was to estimate repair or rebuilding costs, complete paperwork for each family, and report back to Red Cross headquarters in the evening. Here are excerpts from one of Dotti's letters to Carole Webber in Antrim:

"We spent the whole day in farm country and back woods. We had another long day on the road today visiting about 18 families in the back woods and farm country. We've met some amazing people. The last person we visited was concerned that it was 6 pm and we still had over an hours drive back to our hotel and dinner so she made us up plates of spaghetti to take to eat in the car! Most of the time was taken up by people telling stories and asking questions. An early morning highlight was a visit to a sheep farm owned by an older couple who lived in the back woods. This was a beautiful place which reminded us of New Hampshire. She did spinning and weaving and he did beautiful woodworking including handmade wooden farm implements (rakes, shovels & pitchforks) like ones we saw being used in Romania. They were really interesting people and very pleasant and understanding when we turned them down for assistance as they had no structural damage to their home. They had hundreds of trees blown down which they had to log themselves because they could get no one to come out and do it for them. We have resisted bringing home at least 20 cats & puppies. We are really enjoying the chance to explore the back roads, meet people and see the insides of houses we would normally never have the chance of entering. The people, on the whole are very nice to us. What a great experience! Love, David & Dotti"

POST OFFICE FACES

Maybe you have noticed that smiling John French isn't greeting you at the post office any more. He called me a couple weeks ago to say that he has been made Postmaster of Harrisville. Our loss is their gain! Also departed is Pat Rizzio who has retired to Florida. But Antrim is lucky to have inherited a pleasant new face, Peter Koutroubas, who is "Officer In Charge" which is the same as "Acting Postmaster." Peter lives in Lyndeborough.

TRICKY TERMS

Have you noticed how some people get sneaky with words? I guess the California prune growers thought the traditional word for their product had negative connotations, so now we see "Dried Plums" on grocery shelves. And then there are the breakfast cereal manufacturers who know that folks are trying to avoid sugar, so the contents on the box lists "Dried Cane Juice." My doggone favorite term-twist came during a tv account of the awful flooding in Alstead when the Policeman on the screen said that they were using "Canine Resources" to search for victims. If you have found some tricky terms, send them to the Limrik and we'll print them in our next issue. ❄

Conval School Board continued

In my first year on the Board, I have seen progress in the Board's willingness and ability to work together as a unit. We have agreed on a set of guidelines for working with each other. I come to the board kicking and screaming, coveting the time I would rather be somewhere else, which only makes me admire more the dedication and selflessness of the other board members. They have stood steadfast, during a years-long season of time-consuming distractions, with their eyes on the reasons that called them to the Board. They want to delve deeply into the budget, looking for fresh ideas that will save money. There isn't a scorched earth, eat the seed corn attitude about this, but a healthy curiosity. As times and technologies change, what are the smart things we can do for the mission? Other concerns: curriculum review and improvement; bullying policy; job descriptions and written reviews, student and employee morale, and much more.

So, now it is your turn. We want you to know effective processes to insure your concerns are heard. Please understand that being heard and having your suggestions adopted are two different things. The District is like a great ship. Stopping, or changing direction takes forethought, clear vision, convincing logic, consistency, and time.

COME TO OUR MEETING TUESDAY ON DECEMBER 6 FROM 6:30-9:00 PM AT ANTRIM TOWN HALL ❄

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ANTRIM POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Todd E. Feyrer

My first three months as your police chief have been active, challenging, and one of the most enjoyable times of my career. I have had the pleasure to meet many of you, and of those that I have not met yet, I hope to see you soon. Although we have been short staffed, and are trying to provide the services that you deserve and demand, I am pleased to announce that as of this article we have made significant strides.

Our newest officer—who will be on duty and fully deployed on the street before this article reaches your hands—is Officer Matthew Elliott. Officer Elliott comes to Antrim with more than 10 years as a respected and decorated police officer. Officer Elliot has a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Hesser College and has received training and certifications in many aspects of law enforcement.

Rebuilding a department is not an easy task as I have quickly learned, but I am

pleased with the outcome thus far. Although the Antrim Police Department may be staffed with "new" officers, with myself, Sgt. Dunn and Officer Elliott, we bring almost 30 years of combined experience to the Town. I would be remiss if I didn't include Officer Alex Niles who, although a new officer, is a solid member of the department. I am also pleased to announce that Officer Niles will be a graduate of the 138th NH Full-Time Police Academy as of November 18, 2005. I am very proud of his achievement and look forward to seeing him develop as a new officer.

Because of these recent changes, you will quickly begin to see an increased presence of officers on the street. We have had a number of issues with speeding vehicles and other problems associated with the skate park that will be monitored closely. I am confident that we will get back to normal as the motoring public and younger residents become used to seeing police on the streets on a regular basis. I have also just received the final paperwork from the Department of Highway Safety for the Speed Monitoring

Trailer that was approved last year. I anticipate deploying this device in the near future.

One of my goals is to increase the interaction between the police and citizens. As a result of this, I want to announce the first "Antrim Police Department Citizens Police Academy." This will take place shortly after town meeting in March 2006 and will last thirteen weeks. Residents can attend classes one night a week (Wednesdays) and learn what the police department does and why. Topics that will be discussed include motor vehicle and criminal laws, use of force, handcuffing, and firearms. Participants will tour the Valley Street Jail in Manchester and receive demonstrations from SWAT and K-9 Units. More information will be forthcoming in the near future. I believe that those of you who attend will walk away from this program with a deeper understanding of the law enforcement profession and the job police officers perform day in and day out.

We hope your Holidays are safe and happy. ✨

Maplehurst Inn Restoration continued

tered and painted. On the ground floor the old wood floors have been sanded and brought back to a shining luster in the Tavern and dining room, and the walls have been freshly painted. New carpeting will be installed where needed, and new curtains and furniture have been purchased. All the windows in the inn have been replaced with new energy-efficient models.

In a short space of time, Juliet has managed to make great changes and improvements in what she considers her home in Antrim. She is living in the inn which keeps her close to both the Marketplace and the business of making over the inn property.

She already has paying guests. The movie crew filming the "Sensation of Sight" in Peterborough have booked nine rooms for the duration of their stay in New Hampshire. Reservations have also been made for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays when local families need places for extra guests to stay. As soon as she hires a chef, she plans to serve meals, at first in the Tavern, and later in the dining room.

In the meantime, Juliet is working very hard to make the inn a warm and welcoming place. It is a pleasant sight to see the windows of the inn glowing in the evening just as it has shone its lights out on Main Street for more than a hundred years. ✨



MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE

By Missy Taylor

Now that the Master Plan Committee has finished up its work on the six year Capital Improvement Plan for the Town and passed along its recommendations to the Planning Board and the Selectmen, we will begin working in January on the revision of the Town's Master Plan. The Town's Master Plan is intended to guide the development and growth of the Town. State law requires that it be updated from time to time and recommends revisions every five to ten years. In Antrim's case, it was last updated in 2001, which in itself was a revision of the Master Plan of 1985.

To quote the State Statute, "[t]he purpose of the master plan is to set down as clearly and practically as possible the best and most appropriate future development of the area under the jurisdiction of the planning board, to aid the board in designing ordinances that result n preserving and enhancing the unique quality of life and culture of New Hampshire, and to guide the board in the performance of its other duties in a manner that achieves the principles of smart growth, sound planning, and wise resource protection."

There are two sections that the Master Plan must by law contain: a vision section and a land use section. Other areas that we intend to address are: community facilities, construction materials, traffic and transportation, economic analysis and development, conservation and preservation, natural hazards, and regional concerns.

Once the Plan is adopted by the Planning Board, it will provide guidance for revisions to Antrim's land use regulations, including the Zoning Ordinance, and Subdivision and Site Plan Review Regulations.

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GRAPEVINE CULTIVATION

AN INTERVIEW WITH KRISTEN VANCE

By Lyman Gilmore

To produce fine wine, care for the grapevine.

Dionysius

Kristen Vance labors to produce a harvest far more important than wine. As Director of Antrim's Grapevine Family and Community Resource Center, she strives to help families and individuals become healthy and happy.

Kristen welcomed me in the Grapevine's comfortable sitting room one chilly afternoon in October. As the sun reflected ochre and crimson from fall leaves through the window, I asked Kristen to tell me about her life. I had known her parents, Wayno and Betsey Olson, since she was a baby, but I was unfamiliar with the journey that brought her to The Grapevine. Although it is just a short walk from Rick and Diane's pizza restaurant on Main Street across to The Grapevine on Aiken Street, it has taken Kristen thirty-six years to make the trip.

Born in 1961, and raised for her first four years in an apartment above her father's store in the building that currently houses Rick and Diane's Restaurant, Kristen had to accomplish a great deal before love and luck brought her home to Antrim. More on this love and luck a bit later.

First, her travels away, and then back home. After her sophomore year at Conval, she went south to the Williston-Northampton preparatory school in Massachusetts from which she graduated in 1979. Always selective about her education, she spent but two successful years at Tufts University in Medford, Massachusetts before going west to the University of Colorado at Boulder, graduating in 1983. After a pleasant three year stint in San Francisco, Kristen returned to Colorado where she discovered her passion for environmental and social service work, volunteering with the Sierra Club on mineral rights cases, collecting food for the Big Mountain Navajo reservation in New Mexico, and driving the food from Denver to Big Mountain where the Native Americans introduced her to the physical and spiritual benefits of a sweat lodge.

Kristen told me how she first became interested in volunteerism: "In the summer before my senior year as a University of Colorado undergrad, I was looking for off-campus housing. I found a 3x5 index card on the Housing Board at school describing a cabin in Boulder Canyon for \$55/month. That was about 1/3 the rent for anything approaching habitable in town, and sounded intriguing, so I call the owner, Ivan Scheier. Ivan was—and still may be—the president of Volunteers of

America. He was about 60 years old when I met him in 1982. The place I was to live in for my senior year was a modest passive-solar heated cabin on a beautiful and rocky mountainside off of Boulder Canyon Road, about a 20-minute drive to campus. Ivan lived very simply. He had no car, and either caught a ride into town with me or hitchhiked. He kept a modest garden—mostly root crops (an amazing feat considering the rocky terrain)—and the dish he usually cooked when it was his night was Ivan's version of a "boiled dinner"—potatoes, carrots and turnips from the garden, with a couple of hot dogs, boiled in a pot of water until he achieved a tan-colored mush. What Ivan did for me was to instill in me the beauty of a simple existence, fueled by a passion to help people, to make the world just a little bit friendlier, one person at a time. And I realize, in retrospect, he was able to give me advice about Life that kids don't often accept from their parents, no matter how sage. (My dad came to visit me during my stay with Ivan. We spent one late afternoon tracking a herd of mule deer, frequent visitors to our backyard. I remember my dad being amazed at how close we got to the herd—about 50 feet—much closer than one can get to a herd of NH's native whitetail.)"

These volunteering experiences led Kristen to a professional career that has involved helping people, beginning with a three year program at the University of Colorado Law School where she worked with the Native American Rights Fund and the National Wildlife Federation. After earning her law degree and passing the Colorado Bar, Kristen joined a private law practice where she specialized in employment discrimination cases, usually involving age discrimination.

Kristen's next job took her to Pueblo in southern Colorado where, as an attorney with Legal Services, she was an advocate for mothers and children with a pro bono caseload of two hundred fifty families requiring a sixty to eighty hour week. She explained that practicing this sort of public service law was physically and mentally exhausting. "But it was also very frustrating, disheartening and sad. What frustrated me most was the very nature of our litigation system—us against them. Litigation doesn't solve problems very often and, more frequently, it creates them. I saw that most clearly in cases where the custody of a child was at issue."

So she decided to give up law for a human resources position with the Pueblo Community Health Center, where "I was the human resources department." At the time she was living on a mountain in an "Earthship," a locally popular dwelling dug into the side of a hill, with walls made of old rubber tires covered with stucco, and a glass front facing south for solar heating.

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This position, which included program development and grant writing, provided her with the specific skills and experience she would need when she applied for the Grapevine job in Antrim.

This is where the love and luck enter. Homesick for Antrim, Kristen came back for a visit in 1996 and promptly fell in love with John Vance who was working with Kristen's sister Keryl. Good luck arrived in 1997 when she learned that the founders of The Grapevine— Ben Pratt, Dottie and David Penny, Sidney Wilson-Smith, and Andrea Gilbert—were looking for its first Director. Having found love in Antrim, she wanted to remain in town and so applied for the job and was hired. Grapevine Board member Ben Pratt acknowledges that the entire Board is "very, very pleased," that Kristen has done a remarkable job.

Kristen and John were married at the winter solstice in 1998, and in 1999 their newborn son Jack became a charter member of The Grapevine's "baby group," still a popular program today.

When I asked Kristen about her feelings about the Grapevine, she paused and looked out of the window for a moment. Then she smiled and pointed to the attractive new Grapevine sign with the red image of the town hall erected by the town. After years of struggle to find sufficient volunteers and money to keep the organization going, after the continuing effort to have The Grapevine accepted by the town, Kristen saw that official Town of Antrim sign as a symbol that The Grapevine was now a happy and healthy part of the community.

(See the article about a new Grapevine initiated program "The Before School Club" in this issue.) ❁

WHAT IS AN OSTEOPATH?

By Dr. Carrie Klonel

Wondering how Osteopath doctors are different from "traditional" doctors, The Limrik invited Antrim's own Osteopath, Dr. Carrie Klonel, to explain.

WHAT IS AN OSTEOPATH AND HOW ARE THEY DIFFERENT FROM M.D.'S?

Osteopaths, or D.O.'s, are fully licensed physicians who can practice any type of medicine. They are also trained in osteopathic manipulation, a technique where physicians use their hands to diagnose illness and treat patients manually. Osteopaths show particular attention to joints, bones, muscles and nerves when treating someone with manipulation in an attempt to re-establish the normal nervous and blood supply. They believe that if this normal balance can be achieved, the body has the ability to heal many of its own maladies.

HOW ARE M.D.'S AND D.O.'S ALIKE?

- Both licenses have the same educational requirements (4 years of medical school followed by specialized training, or residency, in their branch of medicine). There are 21 Osteopathic medical schools currently in the U.S.
- Both branches of medicine use all scientifically accepted methods of diagnosis and treatment, including use of medications and surgery.
- Both are examined by a state licensing board to become certified. In NH, this board is the same for D.O.'s and M.D.'s.
- M.D.'s and D.O.'s are the only two types of physicians who can practice the full range of medicine.

HOW DO M.D.'S AND D.O.'S DIFFER?

- Osteopathic schools tend to focus on training primary care physicians and place an emphasis on preventative care.
- The Osteopathic philosophy focuses on treating a "whole person" as opposed to treating isolated symptoms or illnesses, regarding the body as an integrated whole.
- The Osteopathic philosophy embraces the concept that the musculoskeletal system is interdependent and that a disturbance in one area can alter the function of the other areas.
- D.O.'s incorporate structural diagnosis and OMT, or osteopathic manipulative therapy, along with all other traditional forms of diagnosis and treatment to care for patients. ❁

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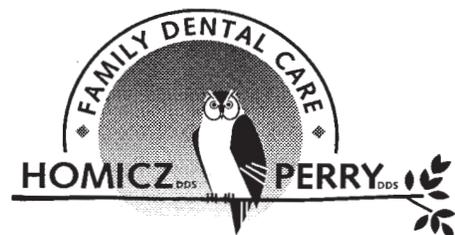
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“TOYLAND 1933”

By Isabel B. Nichols

There was a hole in the tip of Meg's blue mitten so she had to scrunch up her fingers to keep them warm, and that made it hard to pull Jackie on the sled. He kept saying, “Go! Go!” as he pushed forward with his little body.

“You're a pest!” she said crossly. “Get off and walk if you don't like it.”

“No,” he responded emphatically.

At the corner of West Street they met Eleanor Graves, who was dragging her little sister along by the hand. “Going to Toyland to see Santa?” Eleanor asked Jackie in a baby-talk voice.

“No!” he shouted. “Go, go-o-o!”

“I'm going as fast as I can. He's so contrary,” Meg said to Eleanor, as they scuffed along together through the snow. “Of course he's going to see Santa like everybody else.”

Ever since Wednesday's *Antrim Reporter* had announced that Santa Claus would be at the IGA store on Saturday afternoon, Antrim's little ones had been in high G. Not many of them would ever have a chance to go to the city to sit on his lap in a big department store; even coming up with the dime to get into the IGA would be hard for some families.

In spite of her grouching, Meg was secretly glad she had to take Jackie to see Santa; of all the toys on display in Toyland the most beautiful one, to her, was a baby grand piano priced at \$1.98. You could really play tunes on it, and Meg just had to have it for Christmas. She could hardly wait to see if it was still there.

As she and Eleanor walked along with their small charges they were joined by several others, and when they got in sight of the IGA there was already a line formed in front of the store waiting for Santa.

“Everybody's here!” cried Eleanor in amazement. “Must be a hundred kids.”

By the time Meg had leaned her sled up against the side wall of the store, several other children had lined up behind Eleanor and her sister. But Meg was happy that she got behind Amy Norling, who looked so warm in her Teddy Bear coat and white fur muff, with a matching hat that tied under her chin, and Russian boots. Amy was sure she was going to get a \$15.00 Shirley Temple doll for Christmas. She also had more best friends than any other girl in school, and just then Gertie Holt who was near the front screamed,

“Amy! Come on, you can squeeze in here!” No one would ever argue Amy's right to cut in any line.

This left Meg, firmly holding the fractious Jackie by the hand, crowded up in back of Joe Thibault, of all people. “Oh no!” Meg breathed almost aloud. “This is the worst thing that could happen.” Joe was new in Antrim, and new kids fell into two categories: very popular, and very unpopular, and Joe fell into the latter. He had come from Keene to live with his grandmother, who worked in the kitchen at the Maplehurst, because his father had gone off in search of work leaving the family to get by in any way they could. Joe was bigger than the other fifth graders, having stayed back twice, and he was always pushing and kicking and being kept after school. Even now he was kicking at the feet of the one in front of him, and he shoved his elbow back into Meg's shoulder.

“Cut that out!” she snapped.

“Make me,” was his answer.

How she hated the sight of him! And she hated that dirty sweater, too. He wore the same one, day in and day out, a brownish maroon with pumpkin-colored stripes; there were holes all along the bottom because he was constantly pulling it down to cover his big belly. He ate at least four doughnuts every recess time, and his grandmother was always giving

him pennies to spend on candy at the Fruit Store.

The waiting seemed endless; Meg's feet felt like iceballs, and Jackie was beginning to bawl, when Santa finally arrived. A Ford pickup came down Main Street and stopped in front of the gas pumps, and Santa Claus jumped out of the back with a chorus of “Ho-ho-ho-s”. Several little kids howled, some older ones clapped and yelled, “Hi, Santa!” but everyone heard Gertie Holt say,

“That's not really him—it's just Austin Paige in a Santa Claus suit. My mother said so.”

The long train of children followed him up the steps and into the store, down the aisle on the grocery side and into the back room. Used for back stock all the rest of the year, the shelves were now packed with all the glories of the season: stuffed animals, Meccano sets, trains ranging from 98 cents to \$12.00, beautiful dolls and windup toy soldiers, and hundreds of games and puzzles. This was Toyland, and the doorway was framed with tinsel and colored lights. Santa made his way to the far end of the room where he sat down on a throne made of wooden boxes covered with a bright red plaid horse blanket. But before any children could enter they had to give Mrs. Patterson, the store clerk, a dime. This slowed down the procession some, what with searching in pockets and purses and most of all mittens.

Finally Meg and Jackie were up on the step in front of the door, and standing on tip-toe she could see that the baby grand piano was still there. If only her father would come shopping before anyone else bought it.

“Hurry along, Meg,” Mrs. Patterson said. “That'll be 20 cents for you and Jackie.” Meg took off her mitten and shook out one dime. She shook again, but nothing fell out. Frantically she shook the other

 continued on page 16



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NEWS ABOUT TOWN

Isabel B. Nichols

Isabel B. Nichols died suddenly on November 19th at her home on Depot Street. For as long as anyone can remember she had been hugely contributive to life in Antrim, including the Limrik. In this issue, for instance, there is her lovely Christmas story. The Limrik will publish in its next issue an extended appreciation of her life. — Editor

ANTRIM GRANGE

By Beth Merrill

Recent meetings and activities of Antrim Grange included a mystery ride to the Franklin Pierce Homestead for a candlelight tour (interestingly enough, no one in the group had ever been there previously), a fascinating talk about the origin of Antrim town roads by Eric Tenney, and an open exhibition of fruits and vegetables during Home & Harvest weekend. Antrim Grange sent two delegates to the State Grange session in Nashua where they voted on various resolutions regarding Grange policy and operations, and elected two members of the Executive Committee. Beth Merrill won several awards for photography, collage, scrapbook page, and creative writing, and Sarah Mercier won second and third prize for her artwork.

The Grange participated in the "Taste of Antrim" business expo in November and enjoyed meeting the public and serving slices of delicious homemade pies. The members look forward to continuing the tradition of baking and decorating cookies to serve at the Antrim Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony. For the fourth year, dictionaries will be presented to every third grade student in Antrim and Bennington elementary schools as part of the NH State Grange Dictionary Project. More information on these and other projects can be found at <http://antrim.nhgrange.org>.

FYI FROM CENS (COMMUNITY EDUCATION NETWORK AND SUPPORT)

By Sharon Dowling

Do you have a child who is frustrated in the classroom and is not learning what is expected for his or her age and grade level? Has that child been "coded" and is an IEP in place to better facilitate that learning? If an Individual Education Plan was created last spring for your student, this is a great time to see if the plan is actually doing what you and your child's teacher hoped that it would.

In many schools, IEP plans are created with a team, which should include the primary teacher(s), support staff, parents, child, sometimes the administrator, and often a parent advocate. The parent advocate may be a trained third party, who serves as an objective participant in the process, or a friend who has gone through similar plans themselves. IEP meetings can be very emotional or stressful encounters for the parent and child, particularly if the process is a new one to them. Parents need to know that they have certain rights regarding the creation and implementation of their child's IEP, and an advocate can help ensure that the parent is not intimidated by the experts and the system.

Julie Cashin of Monadnock Developmental Services suggests that parents ask

for copies of everything, including minutes of the planning meeting. Then, the parents should go home and write what THEY believed was agreed to at the meeting and send those thoughts to the school. This helps to ensure clear communication and understanding of the IEP on both ends.

With copies of the plan in hand, at this point in the school year the wise parent will check in with student and teacher to be sure things are being handled in the classroom as planned. If the plan is not working as it should, a new plan needs to be created. Do not wait until the school year is over to address problems with the plan! If you feel things are not being done as promised, document your concerns and "cc" your correspondence to everyone on the chain of command. If you feel your child is struggling and does not have an IEP already in place, talk to the team at school and ask for help.

Do you have questions or concerns about your child's IEP, possible learning disability, or an emotional issue? There are several wonderful organizations in the Monadnock Region available to help families dealing with these challenges. CENS (Community Education Network and Support) has been gathering information on these services and seeks to make this information available to those who need it. To contact us call toll free: 1-877-894-1566 and leave a message.

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TUTTLE LIBRARY NEWS

By Melissa Lawless

PROGRAMS

- Dec. 10th Saturday • Patron Appreciation Day from 10 am to 4 pm
- Dec. 30th Friday • Preschool Storytime at 10 am
- Jan. 27th Friday • Preschool Storytime at 10 am
- Feb. 24th Friday • Pet Read-In 10 am

HALLELUJAH! A REASON TO CELEBRATE

While recent news has been filled with unfortunate stories of flooding woes, a number of concerned people ran down to the library basement during the heavy rains to reassure anxious minds that our books were indeed high and dry. We are thrilled to note that for the first time we have a dry basement without a *river running through it*. Again, many thanks go to John Kendall and his crew for successfully solving our wet basement predicament.

LIBRARY QUILT RAFFLE

We are pleased to announce that Antrim summer residents Jeanne Baker and Carol Carnes were the holders of the winning raffle ticket for the library quilt. Ecstatic, when they received the call from Library Director Kathryn Chisholm, Jeanne and Carol drove up from Massachusetts eager to view their prize. To our delight, they insisted that the quilt belonged in the library right where it is! We hope to have a picture taken in the near future with the creators of the quilt.

“CAN YOU TRUST *THE DaVINCI CODE*?”

Thirty enthusiastic people crowded into the library after hours on a Wednesday evening in October for a lecture on *The DaVinci Code* given by Plymouth State University Professor Dr. John Boncheff. The evening's discussion focused on Mary Magdalene and her relationship to Jesus, the formulation of the Gospels, and Leonardo DaVinci's painting of the Last Supper as part of a possible conspiracy. The feedback from those who attended has been overwhelmingly positive. Without bias, Dr. Boncheff capably presented the facts with knowledgeable accuracy to a varied crowd of believers and skeptics, allowing participants to draw their own conclusions. How John Boncheff managed to handle this potentially volatile topic with such deftness has been a puzzle to all of us.

The library staff and trustees would love to sponsor more events of this nature, if only the building had additional breathing room. As it was, we packed 30 people in chairs into an area approximately 10 feet by 10 feet. As stragglers arrived after the lecture began, chairs were added to already tight spaces between bookshelves. Thankfully, they were a polite and friendly non-fidgety group.

HOLIDAYS WHEN WE ARE CLOSED

- Dec. 24th Friday • Christmas Eve
- Dec. 26th Monday • Christmas Holiday
- Jan. 2nd Monday • New Years Holiday
- Jan. 16th Monday • Martin Luther King Day
- Feb. 20th Monday • Presidents Day

PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO UPDATE YOUR FILES.

We would like our patrons to help us help you by updating your patron files when changes are made with either telephone services or place of residence. We have been plagued with

phones “not in service” as library patrons switch their home telephones to cellular service. A great deal of our time has been spent in frustration trying to reach those who have requested we purchase new books, those who want to be placed on reserve lists, and those who have made inquiries about possible interlibrary loans. Unfortunately, this predicament has delayed services not only to the immediate recipients, but also to those who are next in line. It will only take a moment of your time, and we are eager to help you receive the services you've requested. So, let us know about any changes.

PATRON APPRECIATION DAY

Saturday December 10th, from 10 am to 4 pm. Once again, the holiday season is upon us and we would like to kick off the season properly with our annual Patron Appreciation Day! This is our opportunity to say thank you to our regular patrons and to warmly welcome all those who are new to the library. We could not function without your support or without the volunteers who are eager to assist us as often as their busy schedules allow. As our small rural community continues to grow, your friendship helps us to retain a pleasant atmosphere regardless of the demands placed on us with limited funds and a library building bulging at the seams. We thank you for your patience and sense of humor when you show up from week to week, never knowing where we will have moved your favorite genre due to lack of space. You help make us who we are, we rely on your support, and we thank you.

Please stop by and join us for refreshments and good company.

PET READ-IN

The Tuttle Library will be holding a “Small Fuzzy Pet Read-In” (for pre-school through early elementary school aged children) during the Conval School District's February vacation. Storytime, a craft, and refreshments will be provided on Friday, February 24th at 10 am. Parents are asked to accompany their young children or send an age-appropriate sitter.

NEW BOOKS, ETC.

'Tis the season when the publishing industry releases new books—right before the holidays. We have so many new acquisitions, over 100 books, CDs, DVDs, etc., that the *Limrik* doesn't have the space to list them. Stop in the library and browse the list, add your name to reserve your favorites, and check out the ones that are available. ❄

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CITIZEN CORPS

By Missy Taylor

We all have a role in hometown security and preparedness. The recent floods have brought home the point that we all need to be prepared for emergency and threat, from whatever source. In response to the 9/11 attacks, Citizen Corps have been formed across the country to better prepare for all types of emergencies. Antrim's Citizen Corps Council asks *you* to take personal responsibility to be prepared; to get training in first aid and emergency skills; and to volunteer to support Antrim's emergency responders, disaster relief, and community safety.

Antrim's newly formed Citizen Corps Council members are Chief of Police Todd Feyrer, Assistant Fire Chief Marshal Beauchamp, Nina Harding, Ambulance Secretary Brenda Hennessy and Chair Missy Taylor. Any Antrim citizens interested in joining the Council are asked to call Missy Taylor at 588-7146.

The Council will be sending out a survey in January to all Antrim residents to assess the level of our town's preparedness. We ask that you take the time to fill the survey out completely so that we can better match the needs of our citizens with the skills and abilities of our volunteers and our first responders, in order to make all of Antrim's families safer from the threats of disasters, crime and terrorism. With that information, we will undertake to help coordinate volunteer activities such as a Neighborhood Watch Program and to educate Antrim's residents about emergency preparedness for their family members, their homes, their pets, and the larger Antrim community.

The Town's Emergency Management Team responded magnificently to the October floods. Antrim's Citizen Corps will work hard to help us *all* do our own part to make Antrim even safer, stronger, and better prepared to respond to any emergency situation. ❁

ANTRIM YOUTH CHORUS SINGS

MONDAY DECEMBER 19TH 6 PM
AT GREAT BROOK SCHOOL

On Monday December 19th, at 6pm at the Great Brook School, enjoy a festive evening as the Antrim Youth Chorus rings in the holiday story and song. The Town of Antrim's Youth Chorus, sponsored by the Recreation Department, will present a musical accompaniment to "The Polar Express" as it is read by local narrator Maryanne Cullinan. This will be the second season for the chorus as directed by local musician Kim Stearns. Hope to see you there! ❁

EARLY HOUR CHILD CARE THE BEFORE SCHOOL CLUB

By Dick Winslow

In the broadcast world, BBC means British Broadcasting Company. In Antrim, BBC means Brown Bag Coalition, which is important to BSC, the Before School Club.

When I asked the Grapevine's Kristen Vance, one of the energizers behind the BSC, "What is the most interesting thing about all this?" she thought a moment, then replied, "The way it came about." It seems that at a monthly lunchtime meeting of the BBC, concern had been voiced about school children being dropped off as early as 6:30 a.m. by parents on their way to work. Great Brook School kids were simply waiting outside until the doors opened at 7:15. Antrim Elementary School kids were allowed to sit quietly inside, monitored, until school started at 8:30. Amongst the members of the BBC are the principals of the two schools—Rick Nannicelli of GBS and Debbie Lesure of AES—along with Celeste Lunetta, Director of the Recreation Department, Bill Prokop, town Administrator, Kathy Chisholm, Tuttle Library Director, Sydney Wilson-Smith, Martha Pinello, Janet McEwen, Jeanna White, Brian Beihl, Police Chief Todd Feyrer, Kristen Vance, Peggi Boyce, and Charley and Cherry Boucher.

There was agreement that a more structured situation for the children ought to be established. The next problem was the specifics. Where would the children meet? Who would officially sponsor this function? Where would the money come from to hire supervisors? Who would keep the books? Etc.

With the BBC pulling it all together, here's the way it worked out:

- The Rec Department is the official sponsor.
- The Grapevine is the financial agent.
- The children meet not at either of the two schools, but at the adjacent Town Gym, this to avoid ConVal contractual problems.
- Supervision of the children and their activities is by Susan Martin and Connie Cody, each being a parent and teacher's aide who has worked extensively with youngsters.

Some 30 children have joined the Before School Club and more are expected. Registration materials are available at the AES front office, the Town Hall, The Grapevine, and the Gym during program hours.

The program is largely paid for by student fees of \$2.50 to \$3.50 per hour, depending on the number of hours per week a student is signed up for, with full and partial scholarships available, as well as support from Monadnock Paper Mills, Crotched Mountain Rehab Center, S.D.E. (Staff Development for Education), the Millard Group, the Friends of the Antrim Rec Department, and the AES PTO.

During the before-school period, children may receive help with homework, read, play games or just visit with friends in an attractive setting.

On behalf of the BBC, Kristen Vance expressed great pleasure in the so-far success of the BSC. "What's next?" I asked. "Why," she said, "an ASC."

Of course. Why didn't I think of that? ❁

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A PASSION FOR THE TEACHING OF READING

By Debbie Lesure, Principal
Antrim Elementary School

What a wonderful job I have! Today I had a conversation with a teacher about reading instruction. She observed that I feel very strongly about the teaching of reading. I had to reply that, "Yes, *teaching children to read is a passion for me.*" I truly believe that if we do not teach children to read, and read well, they will be handicapped for life. Not handicapped in the conventional way, but handicapped, nevertheless. Next to helping children become the very best people they can become, there is no greater good we can do for children.

Reading research has burgeoned the past ten years. We know more than ever before. With each new study, educators learn about how the brain functions as individuals read. Did you know that a particular region of the brain, the occipital lobe, fires up when you look at print? Yours is activated now as you sit and read this. Researchers know this as a result of MRI imaging. If you try to sound out this word *supercalifragilisticexpialidocious*, the inferior frontal gyrus of the brain will kick into gear. This is true when using sounds and symbols in any language, even Chinese! Brain scans will allow researchers to understand why some individuals have a harder time learning to read. There will come a day that we can identify dyslexia before a child ever struggles with reading. We will know how to teach to prevent this frustration and retrain the brain. That day is close...

Reading instruction is changing now, even as you read this. In the Conval School District, we are implementing a

new Language Arts curriculum. It is based on current research and has already been used as a model in the state. Studies by G. Reid Lyon, Ph.D., at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), Drs. Bennett and Sally Shaywitz, M.D., at Yale University, and Dr. Joseph Torgensen at the Florida Center for Reading Research, along with many others, have taught us that there are five critical areas we must address for student success: phonological awareness (the awareness that language is composed of sounds that can be played with and manipulated, for example rhymes), phonics (use of sound-symbol relationships), vocabulary, fluency, and reading comprehension. Our teachers are learning about this new research. We are implementing a new model of instruction. Trainings began this fall and will be ongoing over the new few years, supporting us as we learn and apply new strategies. Think of the opportunities and growth this will offer our students!

I love to hear children read. Each day, as I go into classrooms, I can take great pride in the learning our students are doing. I talk with them about the tales they are reading, about the characters they are meeting, about places they travel in their stories. Several students were book characters for Halloween—that really tells me something. Our kids are reading! It's a life skill. This is better than good—it's wonderful!

"Bring me a fish, I'll eat for a day. Teach me to fish, I'll eat for a lifetime."

At Antrim Elementary School, we recognize that children will learn much through hands-on, experiential learning. We want to begin a lifetime of learning. As a result, we make opportunities to take our young students out into the world to learn or to bring the world to them. Here

is a sampling of field trips and guest visitors we have had this fall.

- All grades have visited the McCabe Forest here in Antrim.
- All grades have worked with Susie Spikol or Barbara Breen from the Harris Center.
- A taekwondo demonstration from Riverside West Taekwondo.
- Open House that provided an opportunity for children to show their parents what they are learning.
- Fire Safety program with Antrim Fire Department class by class.
- Lunch with Heroes – Chief Feyrer and Officer Bonnano had lunch with our students.
- Kindergarten has visited Chauncey Farm here in Antrim.
- Connie Vandervort brought her puppets to the Kindergarten.
- 1st and 2nd grades have visited the Peterborough Historical Society.
- Classes visit the Tuttle Library.
- 3rd grade has visited Kendall Ledges in Temple, ledges of feldspar enhancing student learning about rocks and minerals.
- Lapidarian Don Maughan spoke to 3rd graders about rocks, gems and polishing stones.
- Dr. Robert Goodby, archeologist, taught 4th graders about the history of our region and Abenaki artifacts.
- 4th graders will be going to *Walk Two Moons*, a play involving Native American culture, written by Sharon Creech.
- Dr. Yi Gong, a professor from Keene State, shared with 4th graders about life in elementary schools in China.
- The author and illustrator Marty Kelley spent a full day here meeting with classes and teaching about writing and illustrating books.

So much to see...so much to do! ✨

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SUNNY AND 70 DEGREES

A business plan written to appeal to all the senses won Ken and Jenn Kass the lease for the café they wanted to open. For the past 10 years their dream only needed the right time, opportunity and place to be fulfilled, so that when the building next to Edmunds Hardware became available they knew their chance had arrived.

The GOOD DAY CAFÉ where every day is “sunny and 70” and the proprietors goal is that every person find a bit of paradise, and paradise for many of us begins with “a good cup of coffee.” The cafe offers coffee from A&E Roasters a New Hampshire based company.

The Kass's—one hails from the corporate world, the other a contractor—appreciate the needs and wants of their patrons. Ken and Jenn intend to never sacrifice their original intentions of providing good service, good food and a good price, and they consider their cozy and inviting atmosphere to be a bonus.

At the GOOD DAY CAFÉ not only will you find the coffee to your liking, you will also find your nice warm meal served on 3 DOT POTTERY dinnerware from Antrim potter Chauncey Berdan whose studio is on Route 31.

If pastries are your thing, in the pastry case you will find BREAD AND CHOCOLATE delectables baked by Franz Andlinger another Antrim contributor.

The café is staffed by five dedicated local people all striving to meet your expectations, and for that to happen the Kass's know they need to run a tight ship though the laid back climate says otherwise. Their helpers include: Mike Dupuis, Donna Tatro, Shirley Quinn, Willow Tarr, and Sarah Davy. While the staff wear a casual uniform consisting of a company t-shirt, jeans and sneakers, the café's standard is cleanliness and quality.

Just as Ken and Jenn have expressed the knowledge that they can't succeed without their employees, they also give recognition to the community support, which has been outstanding and growing daily.

The GOOD DAY CAFÉ is open from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. seven days a week for now, but in the future you can expect to find the cafe space available after hours to serve a few select needs.

So, if you are down on Main Street, and the weather is anything but, stop in for home cooked breakfast or lunch...and get a free side order of “sunny and 70” to go...and have a good day!

— Schatze Moore



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ANTRIM VOICES

LOSING LAND, MISSING CATS

A letter to the *Limrik* from Peter Gagne of Antrim.

I have lived, hunted, logged and trapped in and around Antrim since 1980. Antrim is what small town New England is noted for. It is country with longstanding small and friendly businesses like Antrim Lumber, Edmunds Hardware, T-Bird, and Mush Cook's garage. We have beautiful Gregg Lake, the Contoocook River, and countless clean streams and brooks to enjoy. The outskirts of town have miles of dirt roads, logging roads, and snowmobile trails, used by so many for horseback riding, running, hiking, walking, hunting, snowmobiling, and 4 wheeling.

Antrim has all the country people could want. Antrim has been looked at and discovered by many, like a little find of gold or oil. In a small sense, people have rushed in eager to stake a claim on land, to build their dreams of living in a small, friendly, fall-colored New England town. Who could blame a person for wanting to pursue a home and life in Antrim?

In my 25 years here I have seen some great changes come to the town. We have grown with some class. Downtown Antrim has improved, with artwork on our town hall, new side walks, new street signs, and new businesses that have improved the buildings and appearance of their properties. There is the Lutheran Girls' Shelter and The Grapevine, a heart-filled, caring, non-profit organization that helps people in all aspects of living. We even have our own little newspaper. Yes, we are a special small town.

 continued on page 16

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LOCAL GIRL SCOUT NEWS

By Sharon Dowling, Leader

Girl Scout Troops that comprise the Great Brook Service Unit have started the new year off with great success, despite the weather woes that have plagued the fall season this year. September registration was the start for many individual troop activities from Frankestown to Antrim; a fun filled Fall Festival was held at Chauncey Farm at the end of October, which involved 40 girls (from little to big) and a dozen adult volunteers participating in crafts, games, a hay ride, and more; November 17th saw the youngest Daisies to the oldest Senior Scouts cooperating at making holiday gifts and wraps, and sharing desserts at the Holiday Fair held at Great Brook School; and December will see the Scouts decorating the Community Christmas Tree and participating in the First Lighting celebrations.

Girl Scouting has seen changes in recent years as the organization has adjusted to the issues facing modern girls in an ever more complicated society. This year the 2005 National Council Session 50th Convention, held in Atlanta and including 13,111 participants, yielded a new mission statement for Girl Scouting. It states that "Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place." As the most recent issue of the area council newsletter, *THE CURRENT*, states, "...girls today are faced with enormous choices and ethical dilemmas. Peer pressure to drink, use drugs, have sex, skip school, cheat on tests, and bully others is not limited to girls from low-income families. All girls are at risk...Girl Scout program activities are designed to increase positive social behavior in girls by developing confidence, character, and courage."

Would you like to see your daughter involved in Girl Scouts? Would you be interested as an adult to volunteer time, skills or financial support to a local troop? If you need further information on Girl Scouting in the Antrim area, please contact Service Unit Manager Jeana White-Beihl at 588-3014. ❁

FOR THE RECORD

Beginning with this issue, each Limrik will include a brief feature mentioning recent events that have been covered thoroughly by local newspapers. This "For The Record" column will serve as a documentation for future readers and historians.

FLOODING AND TRAGEDY

A seven-inch early October rainfall led to serious flooding, temporary closing of some roads including to Liberty Farm and to Gregg Lake's White Birch Point, and the loss of a man's life. The town mourns the death of 67-year-old Tom Mangieri who, while using a kayak to inspect damage to his North Branch riverside home upstream of the Liberty Farm bridge, was swept away by a raging current. Shortly thereafter he was seen clinging to a tree but rescuers were unable to reach him before he lost his grip. His body as of Nov. 1st had not yet been found. Mr. Mangieri was a past member of the Antrim Fire Department as well as a volunteer for the Red Cross in Louisiana helping hurricane Katrina victims.

LATE FALL

Fall came to Antrim very late this year. Leaves fell from trees two weeks later than usual and coloration of foliage was both late and muted.

— Editors

BOY SCOUT TROOP 2 NEWS ANNUAL WREATH SALE

Troop 2 is again selling wreaths for the holidays, its main fundraiser of the year. If you reserved a wreath in the recent mailing, the boys thank you for your support. If you didn't reserve a wreath, Boy Scout wreaths are still available in front of Family on Board, and at Norway Hill in Hancock. Wreath sales last year helped to send eight Troop 2 boys to Camp Bell, and we have more kids attending camp this year.

Troop 2 now has 17 boys and we are active and growing! Additional adult volunteers are needed for administrative jobs in the troop, so if you are a former Scout and want to give back to the program, we would love to have your participation. Contact committee vice chair Brian Beihl for more information about how to get involved, 588-3014. ❁

THE ANTRIM PLAYERS "PICNIC"

Antrim Town Hall, September 29 & 30, October 1.

For her first experience directing the Antrim Players Cindy Dickinson, of the Conval High Drama Club, chose William Inge's "Picnic," the 1953 Pulitzer prize-winning comedy-drama. She says, "(It) is a nearly perfect vehicle for a strong community theatre company....The themes of love, choice, ageing, loneliness, hope and desperation are common to us all and to every generation."

The cast of 12 local and near-local actors, most of whom have been seen in recent Players' productions, were deftly directed, moving comfortably around the Town Hall stage. The 111-year-old stage has unique qualities, both good and bad, and designer Bruce Dodge and artist Darlene Sweeney created a striking Midwest background where the action took place.

In the cast were several teen-agers, including Kate Cochran, who was a mainstay of the Children's Theatre in past years, most notably as Dorothy in "The Wizard of Oz." She has now made a worthy transition to adult theatre, playing the pivotal role of Millie in "Picnic."

The seventh annual Children's Theatre production will be presented in the spring of 2006, giving more local children a chance to gain experience on the stage. They could do no better than take Kate as a role model.

During the 87 years of its existence the Antrim Players has raised many thousands of dollars for local organizations and special benefits. It is an exemplar of dedication, with its members giving freely of their time and talent for the good of the community. Not to mention the fact that they have a lot of fun doing it!

— Izi Nichols

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CALENDAR

DECEMBER



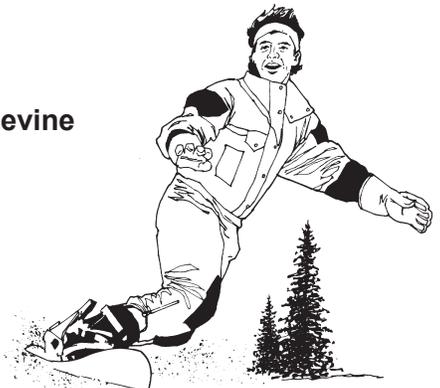
- 3 *Stop, Drop & Shop* • 9 AM • The Grapevine
- 4 *Tree Lighting* • 4 PM • Memorial Park
- 6 *Brown Bag Coalition* • 12:30 PM • The Grapevine
- 6 *Antrim's Conval School Board Members meeting* • 6:30 PM • Town Hall
- 7 *GBS Holiday Concert* • 6:30 PM • GBS Gymnasium
- 7 *Antrim Grange business meeting* • 7:30 PM • check Grange website for location
- 10 *Library Patron Appreciation Day* • 10 AM – 4 PM • Tuttle Library
- 10 *Monadnock Chorus Holiday Concert* • 8 PM • Peterborough
- 11 *Monadnock Chorus Holiday Concert* • 3 PM • Peterborough
- 12 *Second Mondays, "Bullies"* • 6:30 PM • The Grapevine
- 15 *Community Supper* • 5:30 PM • Presbyterian Church
- 18 *Father's Brunch* • 10 AM • The Grapevine
- 18 *Christmas Concert* • 7 PM • Baptist Church
- 19 *Antrim Youth Chorus musical* • 6 PM • Great Brook School
- 21 *Antrim Grange program meeting* • 7:30 PM • check Grange website for location
- Dec 23-Jan 2 *Conval Schools Holiday Break*
- 30 *Preschool Storytime* • 10 AM • Tuttle Library

JANUARY

- 4 *Brown Bag Coalition* • 12:30 PM • The Grapevine
- 4 *Antrim Grange business meeting* • 7:30 PM • check Grange website for location
- 9 *Second Mondays, "Parent Circle"* • 6:30 PM • The Grapevine
- 10 *Strong Living begins* • 1 PM • The Grapevine
- 16 *Conval Schools closed for Martin Luther King Day*
- 18 *Antrim Grange program meeting* • 7:30 PM • check Grange website for location
- 19 *Community Supper* • 5:30 PM • Presbyterian Church
- 21 *Father's Brunch* • 10 AM • The Grapevine
- 27 *Conval Schools closed for Teacher Workshop Day*
- 27 *Preschool Storytime* • 10 AM • Tuttle Library

FEBRUARY

- 1 *Antrim Grange business meeting* • 7:30 PM • check Grange website for location
- 7 *Brown Bag Coalition* • 12:30 PM • The Grapevine
- 12 *Stop, Drop & Romance* • 4-7 PM • The Grapevine
- 13 *Second Mondays, "Single Parents"* • 6:30 PM • The Grapevine
- 15 *Antrim Grange program meeting* • 7:30 PM • check Grange website for location
- 16 *Community Supper* • 5:30 PM • Presbyterian Church
- Feb 20-24 *Conval Schools Winter Break*
- 21 *Parent-Child Fun* • 9:30 AM • The Grapevine
- 23 *Crafts for Children ages 7-9* • 10 AM • The Grapevine
- 24 *Pet Read-In* • 10 AM • Tuttle Library
- 28 *Effective Parenting Course begins* • 5:30 PM • The Grapevine



mitten, and searched her pockets, but no other dime was forthcoming. That pesky hole in her mitten! She must have lost the money somewhere in the snow.

She was being pushed from behind. "Go on in, Meg! Keep movin'."

"I've lost my dime!" she cried out in panic. She looked around at the others, meeting nothing but blank stares. Amy surely must have had an extra dime tucked in her muff, but she turned away when Meg caught her eye.

"Can I just go in with Jackie?" she asked Mrs. Patterson. "I won't talk to Santa or take a present or anything." Before the lady could answer, Meg saw a dime in a grubby hand thrust in front of her. It was Joe Thibault, who was already inside.

"Here," he said. "I don't need it. I got plenty of change."

Hardly hesitating, Meg took the dime and gave it to Mrs. Patterson. She said, "Thank you," softly to Joe, and then they were pushed on into the room until it was packed with well over a hundred children. Santa asked them all if they'd been good little boys and girls, and they all lied and said yes, and then he took some of the little ones on his lap and asked them what they wanted for Christmas. Jackie wouldn't go, of course; he just hung onto his sister. Finally Santa got around to passing out the wrapped presents which were in two big boxes on either side of him: one for boys and one for girls. As they left Toyland Mrs. Patterson handed each child a little colored box packed with hard candy.

Out on the sidewalk in front of the store the kids couldn't wait to open their presents, and the dirty snow was soon decorated with bits of paper holly. Jackie got a jumping-jack, but Meg's present had got in the girls' box by mistake: it was an old-fashioned toy car.

Joe was standing over by the gas pumps, and she went over and handed

him the car. "Here," she said, "I got a car by mistake."

"I don't want it," he growled.

"Yes you do too! It's a little rusty in places, but it's a—" she looked at it closely, "—Model T, I think."

Reluctantly Joe took the car. "You take my candy then. I don't need it."

"Okay." He was pulling his sweater down, but she could see he was smiling. "Thanks." She smiled back.

New snow had started to fall, and everybody milled around catching the flakes on their tongues. Meg got the sled and put Jackie on it, and she saw the blue Christmas tree lights on Dr. Tibbetts's porch across the street come on.

"Gee!" she thought. "Mama's wrong. She says blue Christmas lights are gloomy, but they aren't—they're happy!"

As she pulled Jackie up Main Street in the fast falling dusk, Meg began to hear music above the shouting and laughing. As it grew louder she could tell it was coming from a car being driven slowly down the street. The Men's Glee Club were singing Christmas carols through megaphones that were stuck out of the car windows.

"Hark, the herald angels sing: 'Peace on earth, good will to men.'"

Meg sang along with them, thinking she could probably play it when she got her baby grand.

"'Good will to men'". She turned around and dropped a kiss on her brother's cold little cheek. "That means even you, Jackie."

The Main Street emporium now known as Edmunds' Hardware Store has served the community in many ways, under a succession of owners, since 1845. "If we don't have it, you don't need it!" has been an apt slogan for a store that offered something for everyone, not the least of which was Santa's visit to Toyland. It was a high point in the holiday season for the children of the 1930s. ❄️

In my 25 years here I have also seen the downside of growth. It is about losing land and the reason cats are missing. You see, they go together, and I and a few others understand why it happens. Antrim's growth for most residents is a wonderful thing, but for a few of us it is a sense of loss.

"Missing Cat" has become a common poster on telephone poles and bulletin boards at T-Bird and Antrim Market Place. "Land For Sale" and "House For Sale" signs seem as common as roadside election signs. Some houses and land are "SOLD," gone in less than a workweek. We have, I believe, close to fifty new homes in our area over the last few years, with many more to come. These homes are filled with parents, kids, dogs, and cats. The houses take up land for themselves, but take land from others as well. The others are the animals that in the past have lived or traveled through those new home sites. It is where these animals ate and slept and raised families.

This is the reason there are so many missing cats. You see, losing land means missing cats, and on a few occasions, small dogs as well, because the former animal residents of these tracts of land still travel through close by and often right up to the homes. Most often it is the same species that traveled and hunted these places in the past. They are the fisher cat and coyote. They are brilliant predators. Their survival intelligence is unmatched by most other large predators. The coyote is considered the most intelligent of all animals with four legs. A little history on them both: the fisher cat is a large member of the weasel family with an average length between two-and-a-half and three feet. It is dark brown in color, has a long tail (about one third the length of its body), a slightly pointed nose, large teeth,

✍️—continued next page



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Ericka J. Leonard
Market Manager

and powerful jaws. Fisher cats are great climbers, and super fast on the ground. They are elusive, mostly nocturnal animals, that are rarely seen, even where they are common. They do not hibernate, and in each litter have between one and four “kits” which are taught to kill by the time they are five months old. They are the only predator built for killing porcupine. They have powerful front legs and awesome claws and great speed. They love small rodents, birds and, yes, house cats, which are slow, well fed, and lazy in comparison with fisher cats. A fisher cat is capable of taking down animals three times its size and weight. They have a large range and prefer forest, mainly pine, hemlock with a heavy canopy. They like the dark and seldom ranging in the open.

The coyote is less likely to take your cat, and while he cannot climb, he can outrun a cat, out dig a cat, and chew through a heavy fence to get at a cat. He has become unafraid to enter yards at night, and during winters and tough times, he will appear during the day. He is a brilliant animal, very hard to trap, harder to hunt, and has no predators after him in New Hampshire. He has a huge range, with females traveling up to seven miles and males fifteen in any given night.

Losing land means missing cats, a fact new homeowners must accept, a fact that will not change or be reversed. New homes last for years and are replaced by newer homes or businesses. Many folks love and care for cats so much that their cats become like children, some even more important than children. Cats should be kept indoors for those who love them. There are two very impor-

tant reasons for this. The first reason, as I have said, is that losing land means missing cats. Cats often go missing because they are killed by fisher cats and coyotes. The second reason family cats should be kept in the house that most folks tend to be unaware of or overlook, is that cats kill songbirds by the thousands each year. It is a fact that in Hawaii cats have made several species extinct, Pet cats kill out of instinct and fun, not for food, Usually they have owners who feed them well. It is true that there are few farms left that need a mouser cat, and those cats serve a purpose. House cats—pets, those that sleep on the bed and under your favorite shirt—should be kept inside for their own and for the birds’ safety.

The few folks that read this article and understand it will also be the folks that are affected by lost land and missing cats, those farmers, loggers, trappers and those other folks who own land and forest to hide from the world, We have to adjust too. Every time a bit of woodland goes, we lose access, we lose some of our rights and privileges, some of ourselves. We cannot stop progress. The fact is, we who love the land—its privacy, its mystery, and its value—we are no different than the fisher cat or coyote, Like them, we must exist with the change, must adapt the best we can. But we will not be seen as often roaming Antrim’s shrinking open lands. I can only hope not to see the Platt Farm, the Tenney Farm, the Chauncey Farm, and the Alabama Farm, and much more private forest, disappear to lost land and missing cats. Am I being real? No, but, like the folks whose cats have gone missing, I only hope that the lost land, like the missing cat, is found. *

ANTRIM COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAM

Until further notice, for anyone listing and selling their home through us OR buying a house (any house listed with any agency), using CENTURY 21 Red Coat Realty as their “buyer’s agent,” we will **DONATE** \$250.00* in their name, to the Community Support Group of their choice, listed below.

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SPIRALSCOUTS TAKES ROOT IN ANTRIM

By Jess Baribault

Like the great oak tree that starts as a single seed, a growing organization has taken root in Antrim. Silverling Circle #58, the New Hampshire chapter of SpiralScouts International, is branching out and offering the opportunity for families throughout the Monadnock and Contoocook Valley regions to join.

Founded in 2002, Silverling Circle is part of a growing organization that offers an alternative to traditional scouting organizations. Open to both boys and girls, SpiralScouts involves children and parents working together in activities that center on ecology, inclusiveness, gender balance, and diversity, encompassed in an Earth-honoring spiritual worldview. Scouts earn badges and pins while learning outdoor and life skills, developing self-confidence and trust, and building friendships and community ties.

The founder and Co-Leader of the Circle, Jess Baribault, moved to Antrim in September with her son and twin daughters. While many of the Circle's members still live in the Manchester area, Jess is hoping that the move will provide a chance to open the Circle to families in this region. "We are a unique group. We have so much fun and learn so many things about ourselves, each other, and our world. I'm glad to be at home here, and looking forward to welcoming some new faces."

SpiralScouts meets monthly, generally the third Saturday of each month, and usually in a different place depending on the activity. Past activities have included apple picking, snow shoeing, overnight camping, hiking, swimming, and trips to farms, the planetarium, America's Stonehenge, Audubon centers, state parks and preserves, and the seacoast, where the group picked up litter as a community service project. Scouts also take turns meeting in each other's homes, for crafting, cooking, storytelling, and group activities.

This fall the group will participate in activities centered on Samhain, the traditional Celtic festival of the ancestors, which preceded modern-day Halloween. Later this winter they are planning a traditional Yule Celebration in the ancient tradition, with stories and ornamental crafts for children, a simple ceremony,

pagan carols, displays and workshops, as well as chocolates and baked goods for sale.

Silverling Circle runs the youngest of the three SpiralScouts programs, Fireflies, which is for children ages 3 through 8. The group hopes to spark enough interest to eventually form a second group for the 9-14 year olds. Anyone interested in volunteering in a leadership role is encouraged to contact Jess Baribault for more information. Interested parents, friends, and sponsors can visit www.SpiralScouts.org for more about the program, or contact Jess at 588-4219. ❁

"TASTE OF ANTRIM" BUSINESS EXPO

By Brian Beihl

Twenty-five exhibitors and about 300 residents participated in the first "Taste of Antrim" Business Expo that was held November 12th at Town Hall. The Antrim Chamber of Commerce organized the event that was designed to highlight businesses serving Antrim.

Commercial exhibitors included: Antrim Computer Repair, Monadnock Community Hospital, Boxes on Board, Charlesworks.net, Coulter Coldwell Banker Real Estate, Contoocook Valley Insurance, Lake Sunapee Bank, Maharishi Peace Palace, Malarky's Restaurant, Merrimack County Savings Bank, The Moller's, Inc., Ocean National Bank, Rick & Diane's Brick Oven Pizzeria, Ted Cole's Books, Tenney Farm, Town of Antrim/Citizens Corp.

A number of non-profits also participated, helping to provide their food specialties to the visiting crowd, including the Grapevine, the Antrim Baptist Church, and the Antrim Grange. The Antrim Fire Department's Todd Bryer also gave a wood-burning safety presentation.

Thanks to all who helped and participated, particularly the executive committee members, John Robertson, Christa Salamy, and Ericka Leonard. Also Bill Prokop and Rick Seavey, table suppliers Antrim & Bennington fire departments and Great Brook School, and the Villager & the Messenger, both of which donated advertising.

For more information on the Antrim Chamber of Commerce, please contact ACC secretary Christa Salamy at 588-2574, or access the ACC web site at www.AntrimCC.com. ❁

FIFTY YEARS AGO ROAD AGENT MEMORANDUM

Once upon a time in Antrim, the Road Agent was an elective position, voted at town meeting. (Presently, the Agent is appointed by the selectmen.) The following memorandum is by the late Elmer Merrill who had been a highly respected Road Agent for many years until, in 1936, he lost an election to Archie Perkins. In 1945 he won back the position but a few years later lost it again, this time to Merle Aborn. Mr. Merrill's memorandum was recently discovered by his granddaughter-in-law, Beth Merrill.

— Editor

In the report of 1954, two questions were called to mind. (1) Is our road agent doing a completely satisfactory job, in consideration of the funds and equipment made available?

I ask you, what public servant has ever been completely satisfactory to all concerned?

If a road agent has lived an honest and industrious life before his fellow men, and has made a thorough study of highway problems, such as every angle that nature deals with roads, such as knowing the kind of soil in every part of the highway, whether watershed land in town is absorbent or non-absorbent, whether the drainage capacity is sufficient to handle watershed from such areas: if he knows where light gravel can be used for solid construction and economy, and where good quality gravel must be used even at greater cost—all these items and hundreds more enter into the construction and maintenance of town roads. Sound judgment and economical management must be used lest the taxpayer's pocketbook suffer.

Snow removal is also a problem. If a man knows what to use and how to use it to put snow in the right place, and how to deal with icy roads, and culvert freezeups, and apply sand properly without waste or unreasonable expense, then such a person is due reasonable appreciation by his fellow men.

Most citizens of today do not remember the condition of town roads in 1920 when a program of steady improvement was set up by the Highway department.



ARTS DAY AT GREAT BROOK SCHOOL

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2006

"The Arts are a place kids travel to where they feel good about themselves. Let's keep their passports current." — Fred Babb

The arts are alive at Great Brook School, and we are inviting you to share your creative passions with us! Previous Arts Days at GBS have been tremendously successful thanks to those of you who have shared your talents in workshops that are as diverse as our community. We are inviting you to consider offering a workshop to students on the topic of your choice. Workshops can be offered in either 3 half-hour blocks, 2 two-hour blocks, or 1 four-hour block.

In the past, watercolor painting, clay gargoyles, sculpture, stone carving, songwriting, printmaking, hair design, snow-fort architecture, stenciling, contra dancing, drumming, wool spinning, cake decorating, book making, bead work, theater, and martial arts are among the exciting activities that students have enjoyed. Please consider taking time to think about a favorite creative activity that you would like to share with students in our school during this day. We can guarantee that during this time that you spend with us you will plant seeds and we will all reap rewards for years to come.

We believe that the arts provide each of us with opportunities for meaningful self-expression. By continuously reinforcing and nourishing our students' innate creativity, we are helping them to develop critical skills in the development of their ability to communicate and express themselves. This undertaking requires lots of planning, so we request that you contact us prior to December 15 in order for us to begin preparations. There is some funding available to cover the cost of supplies and provide a small stipend.

Please contact the Arts Day committee: Joan Bando at 588-6630 x6207; Margie Moran at mmoran@conval.edu or Jahna Moncrief at jmoncrief@conval.edu. We look forward to hearing from you! ❁

MONADNOCK CHORUS WILL PRESENT HOLIDAY CONCERT

The best gift can often be the gift of an experience. Treat yourself and friends this December to the gift of a musical experience. For this year's winter concert, the Monadnock Chorus, under the direction of Dr. Carroll Lehman, is presenting two glorious choral masterworks that are heard less often. The *Mass in C Major* by Ludwig van Beethoven, and Anton Bruckner's *Te Deum Laudamus*, will be performed on Saturday, December 10 at 8pm, and Sunday, December 11, at 3pm.

Beethoven composed his first setting of the Mass in 1807 to fulfill a commission from Prince Esterhazy of Vienna. While his debt to Haydn, his former teacher, is evident in this work, its drama and individuality mark it unmistakably as one of his finest works.

Anton Bruckner considered the *Te Deum*, written between 1881 and 1884, his greatest work. A *Te Deum* is a traditional Catholic hymn of Thanksgiving that was often performed to celebrate occasions such as coronations and victories in battle. With its sumptuous music and exhilarating closing, Bruckner's *Te Deum* is a powerful and unforgettable statement of faith.

Soloists for this concert are Marybeth Taylor, soprano, Suzanne Schoel, mezzo-soprano, Charles Lindsey, tenor, and Mark-Andrew Cleveland, bass. Ms. Taylor holds a doctorate in musical arts in voice performance from the University of Alabama. Her concert repertoire includes numerous opera and musical theater roles, oratorio, and art song. She is director of the Keene Institute of Music and Related Arts, serves as Music Director for the Keene Unitarian Universalist Church, and gives private voice instruction. Ms. Schoel, also a doctor, but of pediatric medicine, sings with the Monadnock Chorus and Monadnock Chorus Chamber Singers, studies voice with Pamela Stevens, and is Choir Director at Monadnock Congregational Church in Peterborough. Charles Lindsay has appeared as guest soloist with many orchestras in the northeastern United States and Canada. In 1987, he made his Carnegie Hall debut as soloist with the Oratorio Society of New York. Charles is currently on the voice faculty of the Concord Community Music School. Mark-Andrew Cleveland received the Bachelor of Music degree from Westminster Choir College and Artist Diploma from Boston University. A frequent performer in Boston and New Hampshire, he has soloed with the Cantata Singers, Masterworks Chorale and the New England Classical Singers and sung operatic roles with Prism Opera, Salisbury Lyric Opera, and Boston University.

The Monadnock Chorus is now in its 47th season. Members come from 20 towns from as far away from its home-base in Peterborough as Manchester, Nashua, Hillsboro, Richmond, and include out of state singers from Ashburnham and Winchendon in Massachusetts, and Brattleboro, VT. The willingness of members to rehearse so faithfully speaks to their love of great music and their dedication to this wonderful group and its leader.

Tickets for the December concert are on sale now and may be purchased on line at our website as well as at Steele's, the Toadstool Bookshops in Peterborough and Milford and from chorus members. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$17 at the door. Admission for children 18 and under is \$10. For more details, call Millie Vigneault at 532-9714 or visit www.monadnockchorus.org. ❁



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Remembering David Hurlin

By Alycema and Robert Flanders

When we were asked to write a bit about our relationship with David Hurlin our friend, we thought long and hard about what we would say that would be sure not to offend, for such fond memories of David as dad, husband, boss, and more we have by the ton, of forty some years of raising kids by committee (their words), shared joys, grief, and fun.

Our memories are different from many who knew him as boss, philanthropist, mentor and more. They will be written by others who remember him by the good deeds he quietly did by the score. Employees who worked many years at Goodell, the Maplewood Board when they met at the "yard," Antrim officials, hospital and bank boards who enlisted his advice when the going got hard.

But we cherish things like Friday night steaks before our kids performed their latest yarn, that grew from four kids in a bedroom to a neighborhood children's theatre in our barn. Who knew it would evolve to the Lobster Theatre and the superb children's cast led by son Dan, with bicycles, props and scenery taking precedence in our yard all summer by the acting clan.

Shredding Styrofoam so they could send it down through the cracks in the attic for snow, and moving chairs from the kitchen to fit just a few more citizens coming to share in the show, having heated discussions on who would wear the lucky red tie to assure a successful play, and shaking our heads about all the strange and wondrous things that happened each day.

Bottle digging expeditions that netted very few finds, but gave us jerry jug picnics and fresh air, learning Antrim history as we searched for sites we thought would bring great treasures to bear. We traveled far and we traveled wide to old cellar holes we were sure held the valuable stash, but for all our research and troubles the entire collection all fit in a small jar made of glass.

A backyard ice rink was the entertainment one winter as they watered every night, other winter evenings we worked developing historical glass slides by cellar light. Such wonderful memories of our girls modeling matching nighties every year Christmas Eve, Chrysanthemum Balls, Christmas Fairs, Antrim Players, all fun parties that we couldn't leave.

To have such dear friends is a wonderful blessing and we treasure these fond memories all, but the one that will stay with us always is of those last few days before David's call. Sharing pictures of the new Main Street Antrim and other stories that gave him great pleasure, and reminiscing about all the good things—even some not so good—we will always treasure.

ANTRIM RECREATION NEWS

By Celeste Lunetta

Fall is a busy season at the recreation department. This year, the department saw the birth of some new and active programs, as well as the vibrant return of an old fall favorite, youth soccer.

FALL SOCCER

The Antrim Youth Soccer program, now in its 8th season, had a wonderful, albeit WET season. 160 players, ages 5 through 12, registered from 5 local towns. 6 teams traveled to regional tournaments!

This league benefits tremendously from the coaching, leadership and mentoring of many adults, who give up their weeknights and Saturdays to coach and manage the teams. Thank you so much to this year's roster of volunteer coaches: Sam Young, Paul McGrath, Darrell Brinkley, Jennifer Foley, Kim Stearns, Myonna Taylor, Rick Wood, Wayne Titus, Jim Mitchell, Amy Wing, David Lewis, Dominic Ricco, Paula Auterio, Beth Aborn, Sean Lowe, Brian Murphy, Peter Lamb, Mike Kuchinos, Matt

Crebbin, Stephen Ouellette, Mike Reynolds, Doug Langlois, Bub Rokes, Dennis Green, and Scott Goodrich. In addition, we are very grateful to our corporate sponsors, who help us keep our registration fees low by providing the league with financial support. Please help us in thanking these local businesses: Ocean National Bank, Innovative Natural Resource Solutions, J.S.Kendall Builders, Antrim Lumber, Norway Hill Associates, Antrim Medical Group, Harris' Mini Mart, Country Brokers Real Estate and Carbon Fiber Works.

HALLOWEEN

The Halloween Window Painting contest resulted in four fabulous murals-on-glass at the Town Hall. Congratulations to our teams, and especially the Vargas Family, for winning best in show. Check out the Town website (www.antrimnh.org) for pictures of this year's winners.

NEW PROGRAMS

Some new programs waged their way successfully through September and Oc-

tober. After School for Middle School at the Rec offered up a new option for middle school kids. Three days a week, kids head right over to the Town Gym and Recreation center, to participate in activities as varied as Basketball, Hip Hop Dance, Knitting, Legos, homework, movie chats, Babysitting class and more! This program was created in partnership with Creating Positive Change, a local resource organization, with state and federal funding to provide programming for out of school time. Also after school is the Antrim Youth Chorus, a group of 20 kids aged 7-12 who are gearing up for a Holiday performance of music and storytelling, with a telling of The Polar Express accompanied by song. This is the second season for the children's chorus, which is aptly conducted by local musician Kim Stearns. This performance will be on December 19 at Great Brook School. Watch for more information as show time draws nearer.

Another new program is Floor Hockey for 6th and 7th graders. This successful venture is led and organized by Richard Reilly, and will be continuing through the season, on Thursdays at Great Brook School.

The 2006 ski program has 66 members participating, and the group is planning a ski and ride trip to Loon or Cannon Mountain for Wednesday February 22.

In its second season is our indoor walking program. Join the dedicated and growing group of folks who walk laps daily, Monday-Friday, from 6:45-8 am at the elementary school. This program is free, but we do require you to register—so we know who is in the building! Call the office for more information. This program will continue through March.

Coming up in January and February, there will be after school speed stacking. Watch for more details on this! There will be a group ski trip to Crotched Mountain on Friday January 27th. On this day, kids can sign up to have rentals, lessons, lunch and a full day (9-3pm) lift ticket for just \$25.00!

Families can plan ahead to attend the recreations Family Fun Night, held from 6-8 pm on Friday December 2, January 6 and February 3. Especially fun and well attended in the winter, this is a chance for kids and their parents to come to the gym, shoot hoops, bowl and play other games.

The rec center is also looking for volunteers to help assemble and maintain a small ice rink at Memorial Park for the

 continued on page 23

GREAT BROOK SCHOOL NEWS

By GBS Students and Staff

HOLIDAY CONCERT

We invite you to celebrate the holidays with us at GBS on Tuesday evening, December 7th at 6:30 p.m. in our gymnasium. Our student musicians will perform some of the "old favorites" and popular tunes of the season. Band members and chorale members in all grades, 5-8, are excited about sharing this evening with you.

ESPAÑOL

Understanding a foreign culture has been the focus of Spanish classes at GBS. Felipe, an exchange student from Chile, will be visiting all Spanish classes to share information about life in South America.

Sixth grade Spanish students created an alphabet book representing "El Dia de Los Muertos," a Mexican holiday that was celebrated on November 1 and 2. This illustrated children's book will be sent to the Latin American Center in Manchester as a gift to these Hispanic children who utilize this center for camps and after-school programs.

Seventh and eighth grade students took a field trip to Margarita's Restaurant in Keene last month for a "taste" of Mexican culture. Students were treated to a presentation on Mexican cuisine and a tour of the restaurant to view the Mexican artifacts. This unit of study will culminate with students developing a menu for a Mexican or Spanish restaurant of their choice.

ELP NEWS

GBS TEACHER TO BE AN HONORED GUEST OF THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT

This month, Kathleen Bigford, our ELP teacher will depart for Tokyo as a participant in the Japan Fulbright Memorial Fund (JFMF) Teacher Program. Mrs. Bigford was selected from a national pool of over 2,500 applicants by a panel of educators to earn this honor. This program allows distinguished primary and secondary school educators in the U.S. to travel to Japan for three weeks in an effort to promote greater intercultural understanding between two nations.

Mrs. Bigford will be among 200 educators visiting Japan in November. They will begin their visit in Tokyo with a practical orientation on Japanese life and culture and meetings with Japanese government officials and educators. They then will travel in groups of 20 to selected host cit-

ies outside of Tokyo where they will have direct contact with Japanese teachers and students during visits to primary and secondary schools as well as a teachers college. They also will visit cultural sites and local industries in addition to a brief homestay with a Japanese family.

The JFMF Teacher Program is funded by the Government of Japan as part of the "People-to-People Exchange" initiatives. Established in 1996, the Japan Fulbright Memorial Fund commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Fulbright Program, which has provided scholarships for 6,800 Japanese nationals to study in the United States. Japanese Fulbright awardees have made great contributions to Japanese society. The activities of JFMF are a symbol of the Japanese Government's thanks to Americans and an expression of Japan's continued commitment to better understanding and friendship between our two nations.

The JFMF Teacher Program is an educational and professional development program. It is intended to provide participants with an overview of Japan's education system, culture and people through a 3-week immersion program. Hence, it is a very focused and intensive educational experience.

While in Japan Mrs. Bigford will be working on a curriculum to compliment a 6th grade study in economics and will also be exploring opportunities for students to exchange environmental information.

EXCHANGE CITY

The entire sixth grade will be celebrating Valentine's Day differently this year. We'll all be at Exchange City in Portsmouth operating small businesses and conducting all the affairs connected with running a small city. This will be the culmination of a six weeklong economics curriculum which students will begin after the December vacation. On February 14th, a visitor to the City will likely see consumers bustling about spending their "Exchange City Dollars", being sure to log every transaction in a check register. Other students will be the merchants and vendors, supplying various sought after wares. Typical businesses include a sports store, a snack bar, a post office, a newspaper, a bank and even a radio station! No city is complete without a government and several students will serve as mayor, judge and police officers as well.

Making money is almost as much fun as spending money and the goal of the day's transactions is to pay back a loan which was used to begin a business. Of course this year, we'll undoubtedly have a bit of "light romance" thrown in as well. We look forward to preparing for our busy day at Exchange City, beginning in January of 2006.

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Over 150 students participated in our Students of the Month program last month, meaning that they are in good academic standing (B average or higher in all classes), that they are involved in at least one after school activity (sports program or club), and that they have completed at least 4 hours of community service. Our students this month set a GBS record of contributing a total of 546 hours of service to our community. We are very proud of them!

If you would like to become involved in supporting this program, or have ideas for community service opportunities, please contact Deb Parker, Assistant Principal at 588-6630 Ext. 6004.

On behalf of everyone at Great Brook School, we wish you all the very best for a peaceful, happy holiday season. Enjoy being with your family and Friends! ❄️



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IN JANUARY*

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- 🐾 *Training*
- 🐾 *Do-It Yourself Dog Wash*

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Chris Johnson**

588-2030 after Dec 19

✝ CHURCH NEWS ✝

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

588-2209

Rev. Peggi Kephart Boyce

Sunday Worship 10:30 AM

(nursery available for 4-year olds and under)

Communion celebrated on the first Sunday of every month.

LOGOS program for Middle and High School students meets every Wednesday from 3:45 to 7:30 PM

AA Meetings on Sundays at 7:00 PM

Spectrum Art Association meets Thursday mornings 9:00 AM – NOON

- Dec 15 • 5:30 PM Community Supper
- Dec 20 • 7:30–8:30 AM Chamber of Commerce meeting
- Dec 24 • 6:30 PM Christmas Eve Service
- Dec 25 • 10:30 AM Christmas Day Service
- Jan 3 • 9 AM–4 PM • WIC
- Jan 10 • 5:30 PM Community Supper
- Feb 16 • 5:30 PM Community Supper

Revival Shop quality used clothing Saturdays 10 AM–4 PM

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Main Street, Antrim

464-2701

Sunday Bible Study 10:00 AM

Sunday Worship 11:00 AM

BAPTIST CHURCH

388-6614

Pastor Charles V. Boucher
Cherryl Boucher, Associate Pastor

Sunday Worship 10:30 AM

Sunday School (preschool–8th) at 10:30 AM

- Dec 18 • 7 PM “An Early American Service of Lessons and Carols”. A Christmas concert with carolers dressed in early American costumes.
- Dec 24 • 7 PM Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
- Dec 25 • 10:30 AM Christmas Celebration Service

BENNINGTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

588-2398

Rev Dan Poling

Sunday Worship 10:30 AM

SAINT PATRICK CHURCH

10 Greenfield Rd, Bennington

588-2180

Rev. Richard A. Smith

Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:15 PM

Sunday 8 & 10:30 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation: ½ hour before all weekend masses and by request.

Baptism: By appointment

Marriage: Couple should make arrangements six months prior to the wedding

Sacrament of the Sick: Please notify the priest at the Rectory if someone is sick in the hospital or confined at home. Call 588-2180.

**200 ANNIVERSARY
ANTRIM BAPTIST CHURCH**

By Charlie Boucher, Pastor

On December 17, 1805, eight Baptists gathered at the home of Brother Joseph Eaton in Greenfield, NH, to form what would become the Antrim Baptist Church. And on the weekend of November 12, 2005, the church celebrated its 200th anniversary with a festive banquet attended by 75 members and friends.

Much has occurred in the last two hundred years including the construction of the present church building in 1871, the parsonage next door in 1879, and a current membership of 100.

One of the highlights of the evening was the recognition of Phil Lang as a 75-year member. The church honored Phil with a certificate of recognition and a lifetime free pass to all church dinners. And on Sunday the 13th of November, the congregation came together to worship in thanksgiving for God’s faithfulness in their midst over the 200 years. In addition to recognition of past ministers, the congregation recognized the lifetime work of Doctor and Mrs. Alfred Chandler.

Now the congregation is looking forward to Sunday, December 18, when a bicentennial quilt created by each family of the congregation will be unveiled. That evening at 7:00 pm the celebration will conclude with an “Early American Service of Lessons and Carols” complete with historical dress. ❄



PHOTOGRAPHY

Elsa Voelcker
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winter. Call Celeste at the office, and leave a message if you want to help in this project.

Finally, plan to help out and participate in the annual Fire and Ice Festival. This festival will take place the weekend of February 4th. There is a youth Ice Fishing Derby, a snow sculpture contest, a chili cook off and other activities up at Gregg Lake. Look online at the town website, and in this issue of the Limerick for pictures from last years great competition. It will be exciting to see if any competitors this year can win the trophy cup from Rick and Dianes, last years snow sculpture champs. Call the rec office for more information.

For more information about our programs check online at www.antrimnh.org. Call our office at 588-3121. You can find Celeste there on Tuesday and Saturday mornings, as well as Tuesday evenings.



Players pictured are Cory Lamb, Mackenzie King, Stephanie Welch, Carly Roland, Taylor Miller. Coach Peter Lamb.



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THE GRAPEVINE

By Kristen Vance, Director

A FAMILY AFFAIR

The Martel Family came out in force on a sunny Saturday in November to cut, split, haul and stack several truckloads of firewood for the Grapevine Community Wood Bank. The wind-fall of wood did not actually fall in the wind, but rather was cut by Robblee's Tree Service and donated to the wood bank. The Martels—Larry, Donna and Joe Martel, Robin Martel Quinn and son Dan, Lisa Shingler Martel and her sons PJ and KC—worked with Ben Pratt and my husband John (wood bank regulars), as well as Kathleen Crawford and Eduard Hristache, to bring the wood from Andrew and Bess Robblee's place on Pierce Lake Road to The Grapevine.

My 6-year-old son Jack and I busied ourselves serving refreshments, had fun playing on a woodchip pile with 2-year-old Oren Robblee for a bit so that his dad could cut wood, and helped where we could tossing wood into pickups. The morning was warm and bright, and I think Robin summed it up beautifully when she exclaimed "This is *fun!*" (Kathleen commented on the Martel family's rhythm—cutting, splitting, tossing, stacking—"You can tell this is a *family!*")

Earlier that week, my dad Wayno cut about 2 ½ cords at Robblee's, and was headed back again the next week. Two weeks prior, he and Ben cut for a few hours in the pouring rain with Andrew, his brother Matt and father Steve. Kirk Schellinger made several visits to The Grapevine to cut and split wood on days the weather was not favorable to his house painting business.

According to the best estimates of those working that Saturday morning, there was about 8 cords of wood at The Grapevine by the end of the day (some still left to be split, much left to be stacked). Last winter 19 families and elders received about 17 cords of firewood from the wood bank.

Gilbert Verney Foundation \$3,000 Challenge

It's that time of year when we send letters to the people of Antrim, Hancock, Bennington and Frankestown, requesting financial support for The Grapevine. This year is particularly exciting, as the Gilbert Verney Foundation has issued a challenge: the foundation will match, up to \$3,000, every first-time contribution and every increased contribution received by December 31. So, if you've never made a financial contribution to The Grapevine before, your \$25 contribution will be worth \$50. And if you contributed \$25 last year and increase your contribution to \$50, your \$50 will mean at \$75 contribution to The Grapevine.

Our thanks to the Gilbert Verney Foundation, and to all of you who support the work of The Grapevine. Whether it's \$5 or \$500, every dollar you contribute supports The Grapevine's mission to promote the health and well-being of our families and our community through support, education and the sharing of resources.

...And Speaking of Resources

The People's Service Exchange is growing! As of this writing, the Exchange has a membership of 113 from the towns of Antrim, Hancock, Bennington, Frankestown, Greenfield and Peterborough. These members offer 157 services, including snow removal, giving rides, sewing, tutoring, splitting firewood, skiing instruction and visiting.

The Exchange is a neighbor-helping-neighbor network. Members trade their services for credits called "time dollars," which they can then use to purchase the services they need. The People's Service Exchange was initiated by residents of Antrim, Hancock, Bennington and Frankestown, and a start-up grant from the Henry L. and Patricia J. Nielsen Fund of the Monadnock Community Foundation. It's easy to join—call Exchange Coordinator Christine Polito at The Grapevine for more information.

Thank you!

- Laura Akerley, for her 3 years of dedicated, enthusiastic and invaluable service to The Grapevine board of directors—we'll miss you!
- Antrim Flooring, for responding to our Wish List with 3 beautiful wooden picnic tables (one kid-sized!);
- Wendy Dunlap, for the many many hours of her donated time and talents at the center over the summer and into the fall;
- All donors, volunteers and auction-goers who made The Grapevine's 6th Annual Benefit Auction a success—once again, we raised \$5,000!
- Marylee Johnson of Center Barnstead, for 300 bottles of stencil paint

WEEKLY CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

The Grapevine welcomes all children birth to 5 years and their parents to our weekly children's programs. The Aiken Street Barn, where The Grapevine is located, is fully accessible.

- Mondays 9:30 to 11:30 — Better Beginnings playgroup
- Mondays 3:30 to 5pm — Teen and Young Parents playgroup

 continued next page



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- Tuesdays 9:30 to 11:30 — Better Beginnings playgroup
- Thursdays 9:30 to 11:30 — Better Beginnings playgroup
- Fridays 10:00 to 11:30 — Better Beginnings for Babies

Better Beginnings playgroups are for toddlers through 5-year-olds and their parents. The focus of the children's program is on language and social skills development in a fun, nurturing and supportive environment. Parents may join other parents in an adjacent room for coffee and discussions about child- and family-centered topics with Sydney, our parent group facilitator.

Better Beginnings for Babies is for infants to new toddlers and their parents. Expectant parents are welcome, too. Parents have found this group a great opportunity to meet other parents while their babies make their first friends. On December 9, a local nutritionist will offer ideas on starting solid and table foods.

Monday Play Time is an informal playgroup for parents and children together. Parents are invited to come by Monday afternoons between 2:00 and 4:00pm to check it out.

Please call ahead to register for Better Beginnings playgroups. Parents are welcome to just drop in on Better Beginnings for Babies and Monday Play Time. Feel free to call us for more information.

PRE-REGISTER IN JANUARY FOR THE LEARNING VINE 06/07

Believe it or not, families begin pre-registering their children for preschool in January! Last year The Learning Vine preschool at The Grapevine had a waiting list by early spring, and so now is a good time to schedule a visit with The Learning Vine for you and your child. The Grape-

vine is accepting pre-registrations beginning January (no money required yet) for children who will be 3 to 5 years of age by September 2006.

SPECIAL CHILDREN'S AND FAMILY PROGRAMS

EFFECTIVE PARENTING TRAINING

Ann Falby will offer S.T.E.P (Systematic Training for Effective Parenting), a 7-week course from the American Guidance Society, beginning Tuesday, February 28th from 5:30 to 7:30pm at The Grapevine.

According to Ann, former director of Happy Valley School in Peterborough, participants will learn listening and communication skills that will help enhance self-esteem and self-motivation in their children. Skills include using logical and natural consequences in response to misbehavior, avoiding conflict struggles, and expressing feelings in a respectful way.

Ann adds "In my 10 years of teaching this course to parents and teachers I have had every participant say that they have grown in their ability to build positive and effective relationships with children and adults. The skills are powerful life-long tools." The class will focus on parenting children ages 6 to 11, but the course is helpful to parents of younger and older children as well.

There will be a fee for the course and scholarships available. On-site childcare may be available for the first 8 to 10 children whose parents sign up. Call The Grapevine at 588-2620 for more information and to register.

FREE FEBRUARY VACATION FUN

Parents and Children Together, Tuesday (Feb. 21st) 9:30 to 11:30. Explore creative and engaging learning centers with your 3 to 5 year old child, and see how you can create these fun learning experiences at home.

Big Kid Crafts, Thursday (Feb.23rd) 10:00-12:00. For 7 to 9 year olds—Create fun and unique crafts and art projects.

These programs are free. Please call 588-2620 to sign up. Both mornings are led by Grapevine educators Carol Lunan and Beth Bradford.

SECOND MONDAYS AT THE GRAPEVINE

December 12—"Babies to Bullies: How Can This Happen," the continuation of a lively, thoughtful and informative discussion that began at the Second Mondays discussion in October. You need not have participated in October to participate in this discussion, facilitated by Grapevine parent educator Sydney Wilson-Smith.

January 9—"Parent Circle," with Creating Positive Change, our local substance abuse prevention coalition. Topic to be determined—your input is welcome!

February 13—"For Single Parents Only," an opportunity to talk about the unique challenges of single parenting with parent and early childhood educator Carol Lunan M.Ed, and other single parents. (If there is interest, a single parents' support group may result from this discussion.)

ABOUT SECOND MONDAYS:

Discussions run from 6:30 to 8:00pm. Walk-ins are welcome, but we encourage people to call The Grapevine to sign up in advance. On-site childcare can be available for participants who sign up two weeks before the discussion. Have an idea for a discussion? Give us a call!

Healthy Children, Healthy Planet: A National Earth Institute Network Discussion Course, co-sponsored by The Grapevine, The Harris Center for Conservation and The family Center.

The "Healthy Children, Healthy Planet" discussion course offers participants the opportunity to understand how the perva-

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sive effects of advertising, media, and our consumer culture can influence a child's view of the world; to discover ways to create meaningful family times and healthful environments for children; to explore ways to develop a child's connection to nature; and to foster creativity.

Parents, teachers and other caregivers are invited to a free introductory session on Thursday, March 2 at 7pm at The Family Center in Peterborough, where participants will learn more about the program and to see the Healthy Children, Healthy Planet manual. The program is free, cost for the manual is \$20. For more information, call Carol Lunan at The Grapevine or The Family Center, or call Susie Spikol at The Harris Center.

COMMUNITY SUPPERS REPORT

The September Antrim community supper marked the 2-Year Anniversary of the 4-Town community suppers, and the Boy Scouts served up homemade chili and corn bread—made with *real* corn donated from Tenney's!— to celebrate the event. Antrim Friends of Recreation planned and prepared our October supper, a delicious chicken casserole with desserts by Great Brook School students. The November spread—hearty beef and vegetarian stews, salad, rolls and home-baked desserts—was served up by members of the Relief Society, which is the women's organization of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

The 4-Town community supper schedule is as follows:

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

**STRONG LIVING STARTS AGAIN
JANUARY 10**

Strong Living is a NH Celebrates Wellness program for adults 50 years of age and older, created by researchers and exercise physiologists from Tufts University. This research has clearly shown that older adults can improve their health and fitness with appropriate balance and flexibility training to maintain their ability to function independently. If you have interest in participating in this 12-week program, we recommend you call The Grapevine

now to reserve space, as this program fills up quickly.

Services at The Grapevine

• **Information & Referral:** 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** information.

• **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.

• **Help finding meaningful employment:** Associates in Community and Career Employment Support Services (A.C.C.E.S.S.) offers support for people with disabilities in their search for meaningful employment.

• **Help finding shelter:** Southwestern Community Services assists individuals and families who are homeless or are concerned that they may become homeless.

• **Healthy Kids Insurance** application assistance from Home Healthcare, Hospice and Community Services.

Call The Grapevine at 588-2620 for more information about the above services or to register for programs. We welcome visits. The Grapevine is a non-profit service organization funded by grants and charitable contributions.

Wish List

- 2 rechargeable flashlights
- New or gently-used Duplo Blocks
- New or gently-used Riding toys
- Paper products (including Kleenex)
- Dust Buster ✱

NEW LOOK

With this issue we introduce a new look. We have eliminated the center-fold advertising insert, replacing it with ads distributed throughout the *Limrik*. This means that Hope Phillips, who has been in charge of Advertising Artwork, is retiring. She has done a splendid job, and we hope she continues her involvement with the *Limrik*.
—The Editor

LESSONS WITH NANCY

By Schatze Moore

Lessons with Nancy involve homework, which I didn't do. When she asked why, what could I say, "Because I had to make a mountain out of a molehill." I didn't do my homework because I didn't know how to keep it simple and just do it.

Sometimes I cry during lessons with Nancy, sometimes I get angry and sometimes I am exalted.

Working hard is not an option in Nancy's lesson plan. We work hard. She tells me I am trying too hard and wear myself out. Go figure!

Nancy never punishes her students. Her teaching is about justice, truth and showing the way. Nancy believes in honesty and an honest effort. The lazy wouldn't do well in Nancy's classroom.

The principles that guide Nancy as a teacher never vary from beginning to end. There must be focus and purpose.

Nancy's lessons are always more about the process than the product, though she will say that the test proves the training.

Nancy and I share an obsession about our subject. We have both struggled to gain in knowledge, understanding and technical aptitude. When I have the occasional meltdown, it is always because I have forgotten about the "fun".

Lessons with Nancy are FUN!! See you next Wednesday, Nancy.

Written in tribute to a friend whose story I have long wanted to write. ✱

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GOOD CHOPPERS KEEP 'EM GOIN'

Dr. Tom Dowling
Great Brook Vet Clinic

Who bothers about their pets' teeth? Smart owners, that's who! Whether you are talking about a dog, cat, or horse, a good set of choppers goes a long way in keeping our pets stronger so they last longer.

Dogs and cats in particular have been known to become very socially unacceptable when periodontal disease starts to take its toll on their teeth and gums. The smell is horrendous!!! But what goes on in their mouths is just the tip of the iceberg.

Severe gum disease can cause weight loss in many different ways. The obvious one is a decline in their food consumption due to the pain our pets feel while eating. The not so obvious are the secondary problems, which result from all the bacteria and bacterial toxins getting into the bloodstream.

When organisms go on that fantastic voyage in the circulatory system they get everywhere and anywhere. They visit the kidneys and break down the filtration mechanisms, which dramatically adds to an already nasty case of bad breath. They also tour the liver and can even camp out and cause serious infections of the heart muscle. So if you think bad teeth can't kill your pet—think again!

An ounce of prevention is always lots easier and cheaper than a pound of cure. This would include dry food at mealtimes (no scraps, for many reasons); good chew toys, and regular check-ups.

Advanced dental disease should be treated properly by your veterinarian. In most cases (including my own experience) owners who attend to the dental problems of their pets find that they appear to be rejuvenated after a dental procedure, and start acting and playing like puppies and kittens again, as well as being more enjoyable to be around!

So, keep those choppers healthy. You and your pets will be glad you did! ❁

Master Plan Committee continued

We will spend the next year reviewing data, surveys and studies about existing conditions, probable growth demands, and methods to prevent sprawl in our town. We will also look to you, the community, for your ideas about the future of Antrim and how you wish the Town to meet the demands of growth and development. The technicalities of the process may sound dry, but work such as this is essential to the future of our town, particularly as we see the encroaching growth in surrounding towns. We urge all Antrim's citizens to keep abreast of our work and to give us your input and ideas.

Members of the Committee are Mary Allen, Diane Chauncey, Ron Haggett, Bill Prokop, Brian Sawich, Alex Snow, Missy Taylor and Paul Vasques. ❁

Searching for a Physician?



Carrie Klonel, D.O.,
Antrim Medical
Group
588-4200



Bo Xu, M.D.,
Monadnock
Internists
924-4671



Nadine Dubrulle, M.D.,
Jaffrey Family
Medicine
532-8775



Stephen Klonel, D.O.,
Jaffrey Family
Medicine
532-8775



Richard Boyer, M.D.,
Monadnock Surgical
Associates
924-4668



Lucas Shippee, D.O.,
Peterborough
Internal Medicine
924-4680

- Having difficulty getting a doctor's appointment?
- Trying to find a highly qualified family care physician?
- Need to see a surgeon for a second opinion?

Monadnock Community Hospital has recently hired six new Family Medicine, Internal Medicine and Surgery Physicians who are all taking new patients. These professional doctors are located at the hospital and the Jaffrey and Antrim satellite offices. We strongly encourage you to call today and make an appointment to meet one of these highly qualified doctors.

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