

The Limrik

A Quarterly Journal

For, by and about the people of Antrim.

Vol. 16 #1
December 2006

MEET GIB WEST

By Mary Allen, Conval School Board

Gib West looks at home in the principal's office at Great Brook School. There are pictures on the wall, a neat desk, and a settled-in feel to the room. The only thing that's a little strange is a frame resting on a shelf with an animal hide of some sort behind the glass. The hand-written note on the front says "Year of the Rabbit, 2006-2007."

The framed fur looks so out of place in West's neat office that you want to work it into the conversation right away. But first things first ... the "rabbit" question (or maybe it's a squirrel?) is something to work up to. Let's start with the easy stuff.

West was tapped as Great Brook's principal in August. The settled-in look of his office belies the fact that he had just a handful of days to prepare for his first opening day in 25 years in a new school. For 10 years, he was Conval High School's vice principal, and for 15 years prior to that he taught in Conval's English department.

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RECREATION DEPARTMENT

By Celeste Lunetta, Director

Looking back at the last couple of months, we see lots of balls rolling around on green fields. Fall brings soccer players out by the dozens. This season there were 160 kids registered for Antrim Youth Soccer. The weather was great, and the season was successful. Older soccer players traveled to state soccer festivals and tournaments. Many kids also had a great time at the ConVal homecoming game, where they got to play against the JV soccer teams at half time. The youth basketball season is right around the corner. Kids in grades 5/6 have already started, and registration is happening now for kids in grades 1-4.

The Recreation Department is also pleased to announce that the position of Program and Office assistant has been ably filled by Tammy Ford. Tammy is in the

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ANNUAL TREE LIGHTING AT MEMORIAL PARK

SUNDAY DECEMBER 3rd

This annual holiday event will be held at Memorial Park and the Antrim Town Hall on Sunday December 3rd. Meet at the bandstand at 4 pm to greet Santa as he arrives by fire truck. After the bandstand tree is decorated and lit, we will stroll and carol our way over to Town Hall where there will be cocoa and visits with the jolly big elf before he heads back to the North Pole for the busy month of December. Antrim Youth Chorus, led by Kim Stearns, will brighten the atmosphere with a wonderful holiday repertoire. This event is organized by Antrim Friends of Recreation. Please call Janet at 588-6151 if you have questions or want to help.

ANTRIM SELECTMEN

By Ron Haggett

Once again the Selectmen, Town Administrator, Department Heads, and the Town Boards and commissions are working to prepare the 2007 town budget. Thus far the projected increase for next year is estimated to be about 3 percent which is largely due to increases for the state pension plan and employee health care benefits. Expenses continue to be closely monitored and are offset wherever possible with grants and other outside revenue. We continue to explore consolidating services with other

towns in the area, an example of this is the shared Prosecutor, begun last spring, who is handling both criminal and code enforcement issues for Antrim, Bennington and Deering; and code enforcement issues for Hillsborough. The public hearing for the budget is scheduled for late January 2007.

The town mapping project with Cartographic Associates has been completed to the point where a two day presentation is being scheduled for Friday and Saturday,

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THE HONEY WAGON

By Lyman Gilmore

This article, which is part of the Antrim Historical Association's Oral History Project, is the first of two dealing with one of Antrim's perennial problems.

Not many Antrim folks know about George Edes and his Honey Wagon, but those who do remember them vividly. In the 1930s everybody in town knew who Mr. Edes was. He performed a valuable but un-sung service to the Antrim community.

Back in those days many homes had no indoor plumbing and relied on either an outhouse or a backhouse. As *Parades and Promenades* explains, "The backhouse must not be confused with the outhouse. The latter was, as its name clearly indicates, out and away from other buildings. The backhouse was an integral part of the barn



"Yeah. A three story outhouse is odd, but the view from the top is great"

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Limrik Staff

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Editor Emeritus	Dick Winslow	588-2498
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Proofreading	Cinda Gilmore	
Contributing Editors	Janet MacLachlan	
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Layout & Design	Connie Kirwin	

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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

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NEWS DEADLINE

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

Selectmen's Report

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December 1st. and 2nd. to give property owners the opportunity to review the new tax maps.

The Recreation Land Committee and the Selectmen have been unable to agree to terms with the Seller for purchase of the Gould property on West Street in accordance with the warrant passed at town meeting 2005. We wish to thank the members of the committee for their efforts. We are looking at other purchase options for recreation property which will require town meeting approval.

The building of the Tuttle Library expansion is proceeding and to date the excavation and foundation work is almost complete. A bonus byproduct of this work has been the use of excavated material to expand the Aiken Barn parking area. Pictures of the project work site are available on the town website, www.antrimnh.org, Tuttle Library link. We expect that the building will be framed and closed in shortly so that interior work may proceed during the winter months.

The Antrim bus use is expanding thanks to our volunteer drivers. The trip schedules are posted around town and on the web site. This service is open to all.

Thanks to all of you who filled out the Election Day questionnaire. We had a great response and are tabulating the results which will soon be posted.

The Master Plan and Capital Improvement committees are finalizing their updating work which will be presented to the Planning Board and Selectmen by year end.

The town is proceeding with engineering reviews and funding requests for several bridge repair and replacement projects. These include the scheduled work on North Main Street for 2007, the FEMA/State flood repair at White Birch Point, River Road/Old North Branch, and the Depot Street spans and bridge into Bennington. These projects will require substantial State funding over the next few years.

The town has a five year contract with Steele Pond Development LLC for the purchase of highway sand at a cost of three dollars, (\$3.00), per yard. This contract has another two years to run after which the town would be forced to purchase sand at market rates, which are currently in the in the eight to twelve dollar, (\$8.00 to \$12.00), per yard range. In order to protect the town with a long term sand supply at a fixed cost, a public hearing was held in late August at which the control of the property through a fifteen year lease of the mineral rights and ultimate purchase was detailed. This will give the town an estimated 30 year plus fixed cost for sand as well as the advantage of having a property adjacent to Steele Pond for open space conservation uses. The lease program will result in no adverse affect on the current operating budget and no addition of debt. The current highway storage site on Route 9 may also be used for other town purposes or sold for development given its prime location.

We are waiting for the State Department of Revenue Administration to set the 2007 tax rate for schools, county, and town which will be used to prepare the December tax warrant. For the past two years the tax rate has remained constant. This year however we are expecting an increase in the rate. The town increase is due primarily to the over-run costs for the replacement of the bridge and mill pond dam on Summer Street, and the costs for the October 2005 flood repairs which have not yet been reimbursed by the State. The school rate increase is due to increases in health insur-

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ANTRIM POLICE DEPARTMENT

By Todd Feyrer, Chief of Police



In the past two months Antrim has been plagued with vandalism by unknown malicious individuals. The police department has taken eleven reports of criminal mischief in a nineteen day period. These events have involved spray-painting profanity and other graffiti on roads, street signs, and buildings. The Speed Trailer purchased with taxpayer's money has been tipped over on two separate instances, the wooden guardrails at Gregg Lake Beach have been totally destroyed, and many political signs have been damaged or destroyed. School buildings, town buildings, and local businesses have been vandalized.

Antrim's Police Department, with support of the Board of Selectmen, is aggressively investigating these incidents, and I am asking for your help in finding those responsible so they can be held accountable for their actions. In an effort to work with the police and reduce the amount of spray painting throughout the town, Edmund's Hardware will now require all juveniles to provide their name, address, and phone number if they wish to purchase spray paint.

I want to assure you that we are doing everything we can to stop this behavior. These acts may appear to be "kids being

kids," however it is not one isolated incident but a rash of damage costing residents and the town a lot of money to investigate, clean up, and repair. Due to the seriousness of this defacing of our community, there will be a reward of \$200 for information leading to the prosecution of any guilty individual.

This is not just a police matter, but an issue that affects us all. We must become involved in any way we can in order to not only stop these crimes from taking place, but also educate these kids and help them understand the impact of their actions on others. We are aware that some of those involved may not be from Antrim, and similar crimes are happening in other communities as well. The time has come for us to take a more proactive approach, become involved, and stop this vandalism from taking place. Should anyone have any information, please contact the Antrim Police Department at 588-6613.

On a different note: For those of you that don't know, Officer Adam King will be graduating from the 141st New Hampshire Police Academy on November 17, 2006. I would like to congratulate Officer King for his outstanding accomplishment. He has certainly brought a high level of en-

thusiasm and professionalism to the Antrim Police Department, and we are looking forward to having him back after a long three months away.

Although we are gaining back Officer King, Officer Matthew Elliott is out on medical leave, recovering from an extensive surgery after it was determined he had cancer. Officer Elliott is expected to have a full recovery and should be back by the end of the year. I would like to thank all of you who have expressed your concerns as both Officer Elliott, and I greatly appreciate it.

As I'm sure you can see, we are once again battling with a shortage of manpower. However, this has been very limited, and I would be remiss if I didn't thank Lieutenant Dunn and Officer Perrine for stepping up and holding things together. As a part-time officer who is going to college full-time, Officer Perrine has gone out of his way to juggle his studies while working an extraordinary amount of time to help us cover these shortages. My sincere thanks go out to Lieutenant Dunn and to Officer Perrine.

And finally, on behalf of the Antrim Police Department, have a safe and happy holiday season!



Selectmen's Report continued

ance, pension costs and the amount of state aid to education funding. Antrim is not alone in this as all of the surrounding towns are facing similar increases.

Since last august, we have been working with the Southwest Regional Planning Commission to develop an Emergency Operations Plan for Antrim. This effort is mandated by the State and FEMA and is designed to provide local officials with the necessary procedures and resources to deal with disaster recovery. This is a coordinated effort which includes the towns, school district, hospitals and organizations such as the Red Cross. The plan is scheduled to be completed and submitted for State and federal review early in 2007, after which it will be accepted by the Board of selectmen and reviewed and updated annually thereafter. *

TOWN PROSECUTOR

By Janet MacLachlan

Probably not many people in town realize that a new person has joined the Town Hall team. She is Ms. Diana Fenton who was hired in July as regional criminal prosecutor to work under the supervision of the police chiefs of Antrim, Bennington, and Deering. The purpose of her position is to free up the police chiefs so they may spend their working hours in town rather than prosecuting cases in court. She appears in Hillsboro court every Monday to represent the three towns and present pending cases to the judge. These criminal cases include simple assault, conduct after an accident, motor vehicle violations, issuance of bad checks, and burglary. She has a juvenile caseload and works with the Keene probation officer who also covers Antrim. In addition, she will handle Code Enforcement for Antrim, Hillsborough, and Deering.

A native of North Conway, Ms. Fenton went to undergraduate college in Pennsylvania and studied law at Franklin Pierce Law School in Concord. Her interest in criminal law developed after she spent a semester doing an internship in the homicide department of the Attorney General's office in Concord. She said this was a good experience and helped her to decide on which field of law she wished to pursue. She spent her second summer of law school working in the Hillsboro County Superior Court which had huge caseloads and many trials, thus giving her extensive experience. After graduation she worked as a law clerk at this same court until she applied for her present position.

Ms. Fenton's office is in the newly renovated Goodell Mill building. She says she is getting to know her way around the towns, and she enjoys her work and making new friends in the area. *

WHAT THE NEW DEMOCRATIC MAJORITY MIGHT MEAN FOR NEW HAMPSHIRE

By Rep. David Essex

As I write this three days after the historic November 7 election, we Democrats are still pinching ourselves. A strong wave of anti-Bush sentiment, combined with unprecedented party organization at the national, state, and local levels, created a "perfect storm" that reversed, literally overnight, the decades-long Republican dominance of the State House and congressional delegation. Large Democratic majorities will lead both houses of the state legislature, and our local delegation is now exclusively Democratic—Gil Shattuck, Ron Mack, and me in the House, and Harold Janeway in the Senate.

How might this new Democratic majority govern, and what might that mean for Antrim and the state?

There is little doubt we will try to pass some of our party's legislative priorities that fell short in previous sessions, and which many of us included in our campaign platforms. Near the top of the list is full funding for the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP), a cost-effective matching grant program for preserving open space and historic buildings. Home healthcare and community mental-health programs should get more support, as will the waiting-list for services for developmen-

tally disabled adults, a vital program that will attract more federal money if the state increases its contribution. A bill to ban smoking in restaurants, which 70 percent of residents supported, according to a poll, and which handily passed the House but failed in the Senate on a tie vote, will likely be re-introduced. An increase in the minimum wage, also rejected by the previous Senate, will surely come up again.

In addressing the latest state Supreme Court ruling on education funding, which gave the legislature until next summer to define "adequacy," I sincerely believe the new Democratic majority will work diligently with Republicans to tackle this difficult task once and for all. The subsequent funding scheme will probably build on existing law to target funds more effectively to the neediest towns. I hope the new plan will also provide more generous exemptions for low-to-moderate income taxpayers, something the previous majority was less sympathetic to, despite the clear need for tax relief for individuals, not just communities.

While many Democrats are strong advocates for an income tax, I don't believe the new majority is likely to institute an income tax or increase total spending on edu-

cation. For one thing, not all Democrats are convinced an income tax is needed to fix the problem, though it is undeniably one of the most direct means to the end on which almost all agree: making taxes more sensitive to people's ability to pay. More importantly, Gov. John Lynch has pledged to veto a sales or income tax, a promise he repeated to us on an Election Day visit to Hillsborough. Some people say that with a 239-161 House and 14-10 Senate majority, the Governor's own party could try to pass an income tax over his veto, but some Democratic leaders dismiss that idea outright, saying it makes little sense to go against the popular governor. The last thing the new Democratic majority should do is live up to unfair stereotypes, or go back on its word and that of the Governor, who reportedly got several Democratic Senators to pledge in writing to support his position on taxes.

We Democrats disagree only over means, not ends. I firmly believe many Republicans feel the same way, and that we will soon craft a new education funding system that is adequate, sustainable, and most of all, fair. ❁

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE: CONSIDERING BIG BUDGET ITEMS

By Alexander Snow

On Saturday, Nov. 11, Antrim's Master Plan Committee put on its other hat and became the Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Committee. It was a late start for the CIP because most of the committee's time has been devoted to writing a new master plan.

The CIP Committee's job is to gather information from all departments and boards on projected projects or purchases that cost \$5,000 or more and which will have a life of at least three years. Normal maintenance and spending are not included. Projections are made for the years 2007 – 2012.

A CIP committee is authorized under state law. Its purpose is to identify big ticket items, what they will cost, where the money will come to pay for them, and how the town can spread out the costs so that taxes can stay relatively stable. The key is to provide long range planning so town officials and the public have a fairly good idea of what sort of major spending is probable for the next six years.

As of mid November, the CIP committee is scheduled to meet with the heads of each department or board to discuss the project requests, including the justification for each request, where the funding will come from, the benefit to the town, etc. The commit-



tee then will decide which projects should be allowed and which should be deleted from the plan.

The nine-member committee is made up of a broad spectrum of town officials and residents. Members are: Mary Allen, planning board; Diane Chauncey, human resources and grants administrator; Ron Hagggett, selectman; Bob Holmes, parks and recreation; Bill Prokop, town administrator; Brian Sawich, planning board; myself (chairman), planning board; Missy Taylor, planning board; and Paul Vasques, planning director.

Overall, the committee will review approximately 50 to 60 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's report will be presented to the Planning Board and then to the Board of Selectmen. ❁

IN MEMORIAM

When family members die, one way to celebrate their lives and honor their memories is to donate letters, photographs, and other articles from their past to the Antrim Historical Society which will preserve and protect these artifacts for posterity. ❁

so that, with snow on the ground, a late-night irregular could race through the woodshed and across the splintery barn floor without wasting time to dress or find his boots. . . . In the larger houses there were many two-story backhouses and there was even one three-story in town, but this last one can hardly be counted since the ground floor quickly fell into disuse.” (p. 85)

As backhouses and outhouses filled up, they had to be emptied regularly. Phil Lang, who turned ninety this past August, remembers cleaning out the outhouse on his family farm on Pleasant Street, just above where the Hardings’ house is now located, and spreading the contents on the hay fields as fertilizer, “but never the vegetable garden, of course.” Nina Harding says that as a girl living on their farm at the north end of Wallace Street, across from the dentist office on Elm Street, one of her chores was to shovel out their backhouse. She had to dig a hole in the ground several yards away from the barn, shovel out the material from the backhouse, dump it into the hole, and then cover it with dirt. But when her father could afford it, he would have George Edes come and do the job and cart everything away on his horse-drawn Honey Wagon.

According to some of our old timers, the Honey Wagon was a daily and, because of its powerful odor, inescapable presence in town. Some people tried to escape, and Nina Harding tells of times at school on Main Street, during recess some pupil would holler “Here comes the Honey Wagon, and we all ran inside.”

The loaded Honey Wagon’s typical route through town brought it south on Main Street, down Depot Street, across the bridge over the river, past the Antrim train depot on North Bennington Road, to the fields around George Edes’s Bennington house at the corner of Durgin Road. No one now appears to know where he unloaded his wagon, but it is reasonable to assume that, like Phil Lang’s family and many others, it was spread on hayfields as fertilizer. When he was a boy, Martin Nichols, now eighty-one, lived at the top of Depot Street in the first house on the left after the Goodell parking lot. He recalls, “You could smell him coming, and when he rode past my house he would see me and call out, ‘Hi there pickles!’ because Pickles rhymed with my name Nichols.” Phil Lang says he remembers his surprise when George would stop his wagon at Morris Cutter’s store at “Dodge City” on

lower Main Street (where the video store parking lot is now), buy an ice cream cone, and then climb right back onto his smelly wagon and commence licking his ice cream as he crossed over to Depot Street. According to *Parades and Promenades*, “The trip down Main and Depot Streets was usually uneventful, but now and then some low character would greet George opposite the Inn. After inquiring about George’s health he would ask, ‘What you got there?’ George’s response was a bellow that reverberated up and down the whole length of Main Street and left no doubt whatsoever as to what he ‘had there.’” (p. 86)

Looking back, Antrim’s outhouses and backhouses, and George Edes’s important work, may seem a primitive approach to sanitation, but actually it was very effective. As *Parades and Promenades* asserts: “Modern science has never come up with a village system so economic, so trouble-free, or of such ecological simplicity.” (86) In fact, with the advent of supposedly superior indoor plumbing, a nasty pollution paradox was created in Antrim.

INDOOR PLUMBING PARADOX

For about a hundred-and-fifty-years after Antrim’s first settlement in the mid 1700s, its citizens either buried its human waste or used it as fertilizer. There was no indoor plumbing, and water for household use was drawn or pumped from outdoor wells. Great Brook ran clear and clean.

But during the 1892 town meeting plans were made to provide the village with running water, and in 1893 Italian workers were brought in to dig a ditch for water pipe from Campbell Pond, about three miles north of town, to the “Precinct” which was the downtown fire district. The ditch was dug five feet deep to be below the frost line, and the workers completed eighty rods per week (one rod=16.5 feet). The pipe that was laid was made of wood, either slats bound tightly with iron straps, or straight logs drilled hollow. (Short lengths of these original pipes are on display in the Historical Society room on the second floor of the Tuttle Library.) Antrim’s first running water was turned on in October, 1893.

Indoor running water soon meant flush toilets. The first mention of indoor toilet plumbing is recorded in the 7 February 1894 *Antrim Reporter*: “Forsaith and Hunt have the contract for necessary plumbing for water and sanitary purposes at the new town building (now the Town Hall), also the Antrim House (now the Maplehurst Inn).”

Then in the 21 February *Reporter*: “The putting in of the water works affords an opportunity for many improvements of a sanitary nature. Landlord Tenney of the Antrim House is fitting up a nice bath room, etc., on the second floor and improvements of this character are being completed in the adjoining office.” This notice is followed in the 7 March 1894 *Reporter*: “Antrim’s new Town House dedicated... The building has been plumbed for water.”

In addition to the Town Hall and the Town House, private houses began to install indoor plumbing soon after water was flowing from Campbell Pond. This indoor plumbing took the form of water closets first invented in England, usually a toilet bowl and a water tank high on the wall with a down pipe and a flush chain. And this is where the pollution paradox began. While there is no question that indoor flush toilets made houses more convenient and pleasant than outhouses and backhouses, the liquid sewage from these toilets ran out of the houses through pipes, and these pipes either carried the raw sewage into a ditch however distant from the house, or if the house was higher than the Great Brook and the millpond—which accounted for most of the houses in the downtown area—directly into the brook. Septic tanks were introduced later, but their run-off went into the brook, and most houses didn’t bother to install the expensive septic tanks. Great Brook and the millpond became sewers. (Dick Winslow recalls that David Hurlin once told him that when skating on the pond in winter the ice was brown from sewage.)

Having been a Precinct Commissioner for six years, Ben Pratt is particularly knowledgeable about Antrim’s water system. On a warm afternoon this past August, he and I met upstairs in the library to talk about Antrim’s water and sewage problems. He told me that he recalls that his father was “troubled” that houses did not have septic tanks and that their raw sewage ran directly into the brook and millpond. When Ben moved to the southeast corner of Summer Street and Highland Avenue (currently the Reynolds house) in 1955, he was worried about its sewage and searched about for its septic tank. However, he discovered that sewage from that neighborhood ran down a pipe along the south side of Summer Street into Great Brook. He says that the pipe ran through Archie Perkins’s front yard half way down Summer Street (now Julie Utter’s), and whenever the pipe got

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clogged, which it did frequently, Archie's yard got dug up. Also, Ben says that come springtime, "volunteer tomato plants" sometimes sprouted in Archie's front yard from seeds that had washed down from kitchen sinks further up Summer Street. (When we moved from High Street, where we had an old septic tank, to the Hiram Johnson house on Highland Avenue in 1971, we were horrified to discover that our sewage too ran down into the brook.)

Ben explained how beginning in 1910 when the Gregg Lake dam was constructed, the brook and millpond got flushed out of its pollution on a regular if informal basis. Goodell Company machinery ran on waterpower, and its 100 horsepower turbine was turned by water flowing from the millpond, down the canal just east of the brook, through a penstock (a conduit or pipe) to the turbine. In order to turn the turbine, a large quantity of rushing water was necessary, and to ensure sufficient water pressure to operate the turbine, a man was sent to Gregg Lake early in the morning to open the dam. It took the rush of water several hours to reach the mill, and in the process the extra volume of fast moving water flushed much of the sewage out of the brook and the millpond until later in the day when a man was sent back to the lake to close the dam. However, these flushings were temporary and inadequate to rid the brook and millpond of its sewage.

It is not that the town fathers ignored the sewage problem. In November 1911 civil engineer A. W. Dudley was hired to survey for "a prospective sewer system." (*Parades*, p. 77) In fact, be-

tween 1909 and 1920 a sewer system was proposed four times at town meetings, only to be voted down each time. (*Parades*, p. 262) The 1948 town meeting voted to ban all raw sewage in the brook and river, and residents were allowed a five-year period to install septic tanks and leach beds. That compliance was not complete is suggested by an amusing anecdote Nina Harding recalls that probably wasn't funny to the participants. Marge and Wendall Ring lived on the northwest corner of Highland Avenue at Pleasant Street, now Pam Matthews house. Sometime in the mid 1960s toilet paper and sewage appeared in the ditch along the street next to the house, and the town required that they install a septic system to eliminate the problem. After they did this, at considerable expense, colored toilet paper appeared in the ditch again, at which Marge Ring exclaimed, "We don't even use colored toilet paper!" It seems the sewage was flowing from a pipe that came from a house further up Pleasant Street.

When the federal and state governments established rules requiring that streams be free of pollution, the town had no choice but take action. "A first step was taken in 1967 toward providing a system of sewage disposal for the town," and the committee that was appointed conducted a study showing what everyone knew to be the case, that Great Brook carried sewage into the Contoocook River. The town applied to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban development for funds, and while HUD approved money for detailed sewer system plans in 1969, the project was halted because federal funds were unavailable. (*Parades*, p. 182-3)

And so Antrim's sewage problem that began in 1893 when running water came to town continued for eighty-seven years until our new sewer system was installed and began operating in 1980.

Now that Great Brook again runs clear and clean, and we can encourage our children to join the fishing derby in the millpond each spring, it may be appropriate to remember one man who had the pluck and entrepreneurial genius to tackle a problem that stumped so many over the years, George Edes and his Honey Wagon.

A follow-up article appearing in the March 2007 Limrik will address the planning and constructing of Antrim's new sewage system, a project not without controversy.



TUTTLE LIBRARY GROUNDBREAKING

Groundbreaking for Tuttle Library's long-anticipated construction of a new wing occurred on Saturday morning 14 October. An enthusiastic crowd was welcomed by Library trustee Sharon Dowling who, in a spirited manner, spoke of the many needs that newly constructed space would meet. Library Director Kathy Chisholm followed with expressions of gratitude for the new addition. Also speaking were selectman Ben Pratt, a former trustee who has had a lifelong appreciation of the Library beginning in his youth when his mother, the late Clara Pratt, was librarian and his father, the late Harry Pratt, a trustee; David Dubois, designer for the new construction, who said he was "honored" to be part of the project; and John Kendall, into whose hands construction has been entrusted, who hoped the results "will make you proud."

Following the remarks, one and all were invited to make a ceremonial dig with one of the several spades provided, and John Kendall scooped up a huge shovelful with his excavator which had been in position throughout.

— Dick Winslow

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Care comes first

CANNING SUMMER

By Peter Gagne

Well, December is the time of the year for Santa, big family gatherings, and over-eating. It is the time when a wood stove's heat or fireplace warmth cause you to drift off in a nap, which is well deserved, as the holidays take a lot out of one's soul.

Amid the holiday fuss and fun, food, of course, is a huge part of the festivities. This is where the summer returns to play a part in the festivities. If you have loved growing a garden, and then taken the trouble to can and freeze and otherwise store your vegetables, you will have more than just good memories come winter. To most people canning and storing foods may seem like a lot of work, but if you have a few hours a week and a cellar, putting up tomato sauce, pickled beets, beans, jams, cucumber pickles, salsa, and a whole lot more stuff is easy and great fun. If you have a cool cellar as well as squash, potatoes, garlic and other veggies, well, it's just a matter of picking them off the vine or pulling them out of the ground and in stowing them in the cellar.

Sue and I put up lots of stuff for the fall and winter. In our cellar, squash will last for eight months or better, potatoes and garlic for four or five months. We are no experts or hardcore gardeners, we just love growing things and eating good food. Sue is a retired chef, and I am a huge eater, and together we have found great satisfaction in growing and storing what we grow. Ninety percent of our harvest is grown in raised garden beds. After years of ground-gardening, fighting the weeds, and trying to keep one crop from invading others, we came to discover the great world of raised beds. In most cases, they are not actually "raised" very much, but are more like individual little gardens. We make them out of rocks, discarded lumber, and small logs. All

it takes is your imagination to come up with style and size you wish. The joy of these gardens is that the weeding is cut to a bare minimum. We have over twenty raised beds, and they take about two hours a week to weed. We do not weed them all at once, which is another advantage of separate gardens, but weed a little here and a little there, a few minutes at night or in the morning, or whenever. Watering is simplified too. Usually when growing a garden, some crops require more water than others, and raised beds solves this problem, plus you are not watering weeds and grass, which is a huge savings on water and is considerably faster too.

The art of canning and freezing is easy if you keep it simple and small. If there are just two of you, or if you are a small family, a little garden can produce lots of stuff for storing and canning. Canning requires simple tools such as jars, lids, a boiling pot, tongs, a jar lifter, and your time. There are many good books on canning, and the Internet is full of recipes and endless help if you just punch in "canning fruits and veggies."

The rewards from making homemade foods are huge. You know what you are getting, it is cheaper than buying in a store, and there is no comparison as to taste. We do most of our canning and freezing while we are doing chores around the house, so you are not just standing staring at a pot. Depending on what you are preparing, most foods require both cooking time and then boiling time to seal the lids. The foods we store take about an hour, which includes the fifteen or twenty minutes it takes to boil and seal jars. Our canned food will be good for up to a year.

It takes several hours of cooking down the tomatoes to make a decent tomato sauce, so we use that time on house chores, paying bills, or any of those other little projects

that require your time around the kitchen. We do not spend hours upon hours canning our veggies, just a bit at a time, plus a little planning. It's not a must-do thing. Putting up squash, potatoes, pumpkins, garlic, and even keeping tomatoes into late October and November, is no harder than picking them and storing them in your cellar close to the ground, provided that your cellar is cool. Green tomatoes wrapped in paper can be stored in our cellar a long time.

This December, when we gather to fatten up over Christmas, we will venture into the cellar, grab some acorn and butternut squash, some blue and Yukon gold potatoes, two or three kinds of garlic, some pickled beets, beans, sweet and spicy pickles, jam and jelly, and haul everything upstairs for the hungry crowd. We will talk of summer, and how good everything tastes, and it will feel good to know we grew all this stuff.

Gardening and canning and freezing are no more work than taking a walk or mowing your lawn, but there are just so many more rewards to it. Sue and I are no Martha Stewart, we're just backyard folks who find that simple is better, and better is growing foods that give back to you what you put into them.

Today is October 18th, and we are making our last five quarts of tomato sauce. House smells good! As I wrote this article I managed to fold some laundry and pay a bill while our sauce simmered away.

How hard was that, Peter Gagne?



ANTRIM YOUTH CHORUS

The Antrim Youth Chorus will sing at the Tree Lighting Sunday 3 December at 4pm and will present its Holiday Concert at the Elementary School Monday 11 December at 7pm. ❄

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RAINS FINELY TODAY
DENISON GOULD'S DIARY
1817 TO 1865

Edited by Harrison C. Baldwin

Reviewed by Dick Winslow

Denison Gould was an Antrim farmer who lived so close to the Hillsboro town line that he identified more with Hillsboro than with Antrim.

1838 July 16 – “Some hazy this morning. I have got a lame foot so I can hardly go about. Mr. Chase said this morning that it would rain by one o'clock because the sun set clear last Friday night. It rains like shot at twenty minutes past one, so that is the true story at this time.”

The wry and slyly humorous tone of the above is characteristic, as is mention of the weather. Of the more than 1200 diary entries selected from the original diary by Hillsboro's Harrison “Doc” Baldwin for publication in 1974, about 85% mention the weather.

1833 May 21 - Rains today finely.

May 26 - Sunday – It rains finely and looks like a long storm. The wind is variable this morning – S.E., N.E. and W. of N. – all those ways before 7 A.M. But finally in the PM it was stationary at N.E.

June 1 - Fine weather but cool. Girls about here can't stay in the bed without having a sheet and coverlet on them; and part of the time, a boy.

June 2 - Rains some more. Vegetation flourishes in style now a days.”

The late Harrison Baldwin, affectionately known in Hillsboro as “Doc,” was a dentist who made extraordinary contributions to the community. He wrote *The History of Hillsboro, 1921-1963*, he was the town's moderator for ten years, town treasurer for ten years, and manager of the town band in which he played flute, clarinet and sax. He was a man of energy and wit: the 14,000 patients he treated over the years were subjected to a sign in his office that read, in Latin, “Abandon hope all ye who enter here.” (He was also fond of saying that, since he came from a family of dentists, he was “a dentist by extraction.”) Denison Gould's diary would have been unknown except for the interest it sparked in “Doc” Baldwin when it was shown to him by the late Mrs. Eva Rickard; it had been given to her by her grandfather who was a friend of Gould's. The original diary's present whereabouts is a mystery to this writer who made an attempt to track it down. Perhaps a reader of this review would enjoy doing some sleuthing.

1831 Oct.5 – “Rains finely today.”

Denison Gould refers to what the rain is doing in many ways – “Rains like shot all day” “Rains today again” “Rains and snows today considerable” for example, but a number of times he observes “Rains finely ...” Clearly Doc Baldwin liked the sound of it, as do I, because he used it as title for the publication. As one reads through the diary, it becomes clear that “finely” to Gould meant “strong,” “bold,” as in “He did a fine job!” It does not imply something delicate or sparse.

Denison Gould's farm, now owned and occupied by Janis and Ed Forster, is in northeast Antrim on a knoll facing the Second New Hampshire Turnpike near the juncture of that Turnpike and our Rte. 202. The house, visible from 202, was originally forty feet closer to the Turnpike. It was built in about 1770, then fifty years later moved to its present site. Additions were built at that time and the Forsters, who bought the place in 1970, have made additions of their own. Gould apparently lived there only after the move, but continued to farm the verdant flatlands over towards the Contoocook River, with pasturage on the knoll.

1834 April 22 “We had a hell of a scrap at our house today. In the first place Julianne Coolidge and Betsey Averill and Abby French and Nancy Gould and Mary Whittemore all in the house and full of the devil as they could be.”

Mention of women tends to be sparse. Denison had four children: Granville, Elbridge, Emily, and Adeline. The two boys are referred to a total of 17 times: the two girls are not mentioned, even once. His wife, Rachel, is mentioned only twice, both times when she was sick. Here are her two mentions:

1832 Aug. 7 “Cloudy and foggy this morning. It is what old folks call a Sea turn, but I call it a Sa-turn. Rachel has been sick ever since the 21st of July, but it was getting better till yesterday and in the shower she took cold and her flesh is bloated considerable today.”

Aug. 10 “Dull weather and we hain't done haying yet, but we mean to when two fair days come along. Rachel is half as large as Molly Jackson – face all puffed out.”

Illness had to be worrisome. To the extent that medical help existed, doctors traveled at horse and buggy speed at best, and the quality of roads varied with the weather; in early spring they turned to mud, and in winter snow could make things impossible. And of course there were no telephones with which to report emergencies. One of the more frequent topics in Gould's diary is, in fact, illness and death. Here are a few of the many examples spread throughout the diary:

—continued on page 10

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“Mr. Grace was buried today and Mr. Sam Dascomb’s only child, a girl of 6 or 7 years old, died of palsy.” “There has nothing particular took place lately except a Mr. Aiken died in his chair ...And a boy was drowned a few days later in Antrim at the Branch.” “....There was a girl hung herself this week in Antrim. Caused by attending to a 3 day prayer meeting.” “John Sullivan Minot died today with croup in the stomach and mortification.”

I suspect if anyone told Gould that he was overdoing macabre things, he might say something like: “You don’t know the half of it. Two years ago there was dysentery in Antrim that took 60 lives and nothing could be done to stop it.” In any event, I’ll leave this topic with a spectacular diary entry:

1832 July 20 “Old Tom Moor, brother to Hugh Moor, drowned himself. (Hugh hung himself two years ago.) Tom got some rum and he and his wife took some for their comfort and then they had a small dispute about 3 lice on a bumble bee’s nest. So they got mad and she took the broom and he took the fire shovel—each for their own defense. She hit him on the butt with her broom, and he hit her on the head with his shovel and chopped a piece of hair and skin off the bone above her ear. So he thought the Devil or Justice would overtake him. He laid his face in a puddle and had spunk enough to hold it in until he was dead.”

The final diary entry is for July 28, 1839: “Sunday. Somewhat cloudy and a little cooler. We have had hot days and nights since the 16th. Corn and potatoes have grown in great order.” Following this, the editor, Doc Baldwin, reminds us that Denison and his wife had been obliged to enter the poor farm as paupers. (In Baldwin’s very interesting introduction, he had written that we have no idea why this happened. Denison had been “as successful as the average farmer of his time. . . . Apparently adversity struck and he was no longer able to make a living on the farm.”) But there is a surprising addendum, written many years later in the poor farm. It shows us, for the only time, Gould’s deep anger at, of all people, Abraham Lincoln:

1864 Nov 24 “Hillsboro, N.H. This is Thanksgiving Day in New Hampshire, under the administration of old Abe Lincoln, the President of the *once* United States. But the Abolition Old Devil is in a fair way to destroy the whole Union and all the people in it. He has been once elected and is now again, we suppose, for another term, by the abolition supporters of his most damnable acts. He has an army of 200,000 men trying to set the slaves in the southern states

free. He has tried the experiment for the past four year and has entirely failed. He has not gained a foot of ground but lost thousands of men or otherwise caused their death and squandered millions of money and of course will bankrupt the United States in four more years. D. Gould—Scribe.” (Harrison Baldwin here notes that “During Lincoln’s Administration there were a great many Northerners who were very much opposed to his policies.”)

DENISON GOULD’S ACCOUNT BOOK

As an appendix to the diary, editor Baldwin provides 20 pages of items from Denison Gould’s Account Book—simply a systematic listing of dozens of expenses for items, or payments for labor. Typical examples are:

- To killing 1 beef cow \$.50
- To use of cider mill to make 17.5 barrels of cider \$1.40
- By helping butcher hog \$.37
- By days work logging from the house to Smith’s mill with team \$1.25

One sees at a glance the relative worth of the dollar then, when the standard wage for a day’s work was fifty cents.

As I’ve copied out sections of Gould’s diary for this review, it has grown on me that he had the instincts of a real writer: an eye for detail, for what is poignant, or amusing, or telling, or important, and the ability to spin it out with clarity. In writing, he has given us a remarkable bird’s eye view of the human landscape that was part of the region we in Antrim call home. *Rains Finely Today* provides absorbing reading, serious stuff illuminated with quiet wit and a sense of irony. There is no hint of the sentimentality that may characterize a Town History where the attempt is to glorify rather than simply to report things of interest. For example:

“Frederick Symonds and Mason Hatch started today for Illinois and who the devil will go next I can’t tell.” “Had a pair of bulls castrated this morning.” “Clear and quite a frost this morning. Capt. Isaac Smith of Antrim died this morning. Some windy.” “A slay ride last night from Hillsboro Bridge to Bradford. About 21 pair went.”

I feel gratitude to Denison Gould for writing his diary, and to Harrison “Doc” Baldwin for editing and publishing it. It may be borrowed at Antrim’s Tuttle Library. Also, as of this writing, there were for sale a very few copies at the Hillsboro Library, \$10.00 per copy. A bargain! *

TOWN OF ANTRIM WEBSITE

We’d like to remind everyone to visit the Antrim Town website for continually updated information about the town, its services, and all the many activities of its residents at www.antrimnh.org. In addition, you can subscribe to “News & Announcements” so that whenever a new event is posted, you will automatically receive an announcement in your personal email without having to visit the website. Stay informed and sign up today by clicking “Subscribe to News” on the website’s front page.

— Missy Taylor

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THE ANTRIM POD

No, it's not the invasion of the body snatchers. Antrim has been designated as a Point Of Dispensing of mass medication for the four towns of Antrim, Bennington, Francestown and Greenfield in the case of a disaster, such as a pandemic or other disease outbreak. Over the past year, representatives from Antrim and twelve other towns in the eastern Monadnock region have been meeting with Monadnock Community Hospital, Red Cross, and state representatives, preparing an All Hazards Emergency Response Plan to deal with such a disaster.

Part of being prepared for such an event will be the help that each town's citizens can render. One of Antrim's great strengths is the spirit and cooperation of its citizens and we have confidence that in such an emergency, we will rise to the occasion and all work together. We will need volunteers with many different types of skills, and we will also need to know who in the community may need special help during an emergency.

By early December, every Antrim household should receive a **Survey** asking what skills, services or equipment you would be willing to volunteer in the case of a disaster as well as what help you may need.

We ask you all to consider the critical importance of our town being prepared in the case of disaster and to assist us by filling out this survey and returning it to the Town Hall. If you do not receive a survey, you may pick one up at the Town Hall or print one from the town's website at www.antrimnh.org. For more information, please contact Missy Taylor at 588-7146 or at missette77@yahoo.com. Thank you for your help. *

TRANSPORTATION FOR EVERYONE

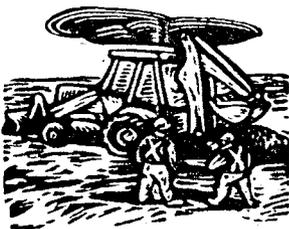
Transportation for Everyone is a grassroots initiative to study and understand what community transportation is available in the Contoocook River Valley and what types of community transportation its residents need and want. The group is comprised of members from fourteen towns in the eastern Monadnock region, Southwest Regional Planning Commission and local transportation providers and is funded by the Department of Health and Human Services and the Endowment for Health. The towns have been broken down into four clusters. Antrim being part of a four town cluster based on the Grapevine towns: Antrim, Bennington, Francestown and Hancock.

Our town cluster has been in the forefront of the effort to better understand what our residents want and need. The first workshop was held in Antrim in October with over fifty in attendance. The need for more options for community transportation was immediately apparent. Residents raised the need for transportation for school-age children participating in after-school activities. Others expressed frustration over their inability to get to interviews, jobs, and sites offering continuing education. Many expressed concerns about the effects of the automobile on the environment and the need to reduce our dependence on oil. Our senior residents expressed particular concern about their continued ability to drive, particularly to evening activities and their fear that they will not be able to age in place, without the ability to get to needed medical appointments and to other services.

The second workshop, held in Hancock in November, concentrated on designing the "ideal" community transportation system

✍ — continued on page 13

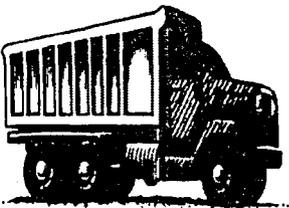
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THESE ANTRIM HILLS

“Meeting House Hill: Part One - Reflection”

By Peter Moore

A solo late afternoon autumn walk up and over Meeting-House Hill, past the old Grange, can be an invigorating and reflective experience. Your only companions are the brisk wind, dropping temperature, long shadows from the settling sun, deep views into the leafless woods, and lifeless stone walls. As you work your way up the hill, the dirt road spines overhead and ceases to be passable, disappearing into the darkening forest.

Soon after you enter the wood, you pass the old east road cut-off on the right which follows the down-slope to Bridle Road and the Chauncey Farm. Along this rutted old roadbed you can make out once-upon-a-time dooryard breaks in the gray stone “fence” where nature has obscured the human past. Beyond the cut-off, the main road over the hill continues down between parallel stone walls, pulling you for another mile and a half almost to North Branch.

But before the crest of Meeting-House Hill, and that forest entrance, you will be beckoned by the lure of the confining wall and the iron gated entrance of the “Old Center” cemetery, up on the left bank above you. Here, just over your shoulder, lies Antrim’s first burying ground, the plot that welcomed all comers for fifty years, starting in 1777, the year that Antrim was incorporated as a town.

As you enter the cemetery, climbing the protective berm, your attention is caught by the iron plaques hung among the stone columns, disclosing the history of this place:

“1st Burying Ground in Town - Laid out in 1777. These gates erected in the honor courage and of the fidelity of the men and women and soldiers of the American Revolution. 18 Soldiers of 1776 who lay buried in unknown graves - Died in service 4.”

Molly Aiken Chapter DAR 1914

Lifting your view beyond these words, the rim-lit western hills catch your eye: Holt and Patten Hills in the foreground, just across Clinton Village, and further west rise Windsor, Tuttle, Willard, Robb and Bald Mountains. Your glance is drawn back down to the centuries-old grave markers that rise-up out of the grassy knoll around you. West-facing lichen encrusted stones with carved epiphaphs jut crookedly toward the heavens:

*In Memory of Mary W. Cochran
April 2 1812. In the 11 year of her age
“Come sow the seeds of graee while young”*

*Mrs. Martha Jameson - Jan 10 1813 24 yrs
“Give her your tears surviving friends
God justly takes the souls he lends
Behold me cold and lovely laid
Prepare to pillow here your head”*

*Deacon James Aiken 1731 - 1817
“He was the first chose elder of the Presbyterian Church -
The first Seletman of Antrim - He was one of Rogers Rangers
in the French and Indian War - A Revolutionary Soldier”
“From his home every man in Antrim except one marched in
response to the Lexington alarm”*

This silent hillside was but three lifetimes ago not so lonely and forlorn. It was a small and vibrant community that gave birth to our town. Now it contains the “dust of some 600,” or 700, as a later account says.

And what of the Meeting House? Well, that was yet to be built when the “Old Center” cemetery began to play its role in 1777, so it is likely that this hill was nameless until ten years later when, in 1785, construction of the Meeting House began. For one who rests in the cemetery, it was the beginning of the end:

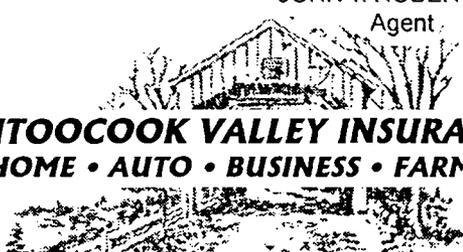
*James Dinsmore
Departed this life - Fell from the roof of Meeting House
June 3 1786 33d year of his age.
“Down in the tomb my sprightly limbs I lay -
My aetive members mingled with y clay -
Yet god is just who claims my vital breath -
And dooms my flesh to rot beneath the earth -
Then think on death serve Christ without delay -
And don't forget this debt which you must pay -
The rising morning can't assure that we shall end the day -
For death stauds ready at the door -
To seize your life away.*

Coming in the March *Linrik*, “Meeting-House Hill, Part 2: The History” ✱

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UPDATE OF MASTER PLAN NEARING COMPLETION

The Master Plan Committee is nearing completion of its work on a new Master Plan for the Town. A Master Plan is a planning document that seeks to guide the growth and development of a town, to afford direction to local officials, particularly in the design of zoning and planning ordinances, and to provide a vision of the town's future that is shared by its citizenry. State Law requires that it have at least two sections: vision and land use. As has been true in the past, Antrim's Master Plan will encompass much more than these two mandatory chapters. The Plan will touch on conservation and preservation, community facilities, traffic and transportation, population and housing, cultural resources, water resources, construction materials, and economic development.

Antrim's last Master Plan was adopted in 2001. It is anticipated that the pace of growth in Antrim and the surrounding region will be such that the Master Plan will continue to be updated every five years in the future. This latest update has been a

collaborative effort of the members of the committee and the public. In May, a town-wide survey was distributed and its results collated and analyzed by the committee. In June and August, two public visioning sessions were held, the first to ask the citizens of Antrim what they liked and disliked about the Town as it now exists and to determine their concerns for the future. The second session focused on where Antrim's citizens want the future growth of the town to take place.

The Master Plan Committee was deeply gratified by the thoughtful and imaginative responses from the public and thanks everyone for their ideas. Members of the committee then took that information to heart in drafting the individual chapters of the new plan. These chapters are now under review and after further refinement will be available for public view at the Town Hall and on the Town's website. We look forward to your suggestions and comments. Missy Taylor. *

Transportation continued from page 11

for our region. This brainstorming session generated a number of creative ideas and suggestions, all of which will be brought back to the overarching steering committee of all fourteen towns. Two more workshops will be held for our cluster, one each in Bennington and Francessstown on dates in January and February to be announced.

After completion of this information-gathering stage of our work in the spring, we will analyze the data from all of the fourteen towns and write an implementation plan. It is our hope that our efforts will dovetail with the plans of the state to develop Regional Coordinating Councils and Regional Transportation Brokers that will eventually coordinate Public and Human Service Transportation systems all over the state of New Hampshire.

If you are interested in this issue and would like more information or to be included on our mailing list, please contact Kristen Vance at The Grapevine at 588-2620, Missy Taylor at 588-7146 or Rebecca Harris at 562-5452. *

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ANTRIM FIRE DEPARTMENT

This year seems to have been quieter than last year, but as a department we still have been busy. Last year we applied for and received a federal grant for new fire gear, and with this grant we were able to acquire forty-two sets of firefighting suits and equipment in 2006.

Also this year, we contracted with the Innovated Fire Training organization to assist us in our monthly training, and we have trained in auto-extrication, roof ventilation and building construction. This program seems to have worked well, and we are looking forward to expand it next year. We held a well-attended open house in the spring which was a big hit, and we plan to have another next spring.

In conjunction with "Fire Prevention Week" in October, we visited the Antrim Elementary School and gave presentations for each class. We encouraged the students to work with their families in creating escape plans and meeting places. Also, we stressed the importance of having smoke detectors in working order by changing clocks and batteries.

With the heating season upon us, we hope all residents have their heating systems in good condition and their chimneys clean.

We want to thank everyone in Antrim for their continued support, and we invite anyone who wants to learn more about what we do, to join us by volunteering. Also, check out the Fire Department link on the Antrim town website.

— Tod Bryer

THE BIG DIG—AT YOUR LIBRARY!!

Have you seen the latest at the James A. Tuttle Library? Not the latest best seller, but the latest best CELLAR!!! Get it? Well, anyway, you may have noticed fencing, signs and a lack of parking at your favorite book stop, and lots of big official looking equipment closing in around the Grapevine. It all means that the addition has begun in earnest, and is moving along without a hitch. The foundation has been poured and we hope the building will be framed before the snow flies.

Your Library Trustees and Director are hard at work compiling a list of specific items that patrons may be interested in contributing for which recognition will be given. For example, one local family has decided to fund the cost of the beautiful Palladian window to be set in the children's room. For every dollar we can raise to offset building costs or purchase shelving or furnishings, the faster our bond bill will be paid off.

Opportunities to help fund and be recognized will be available in a detailed format by the first of the New Year. If you are in a position to help support your library with a monetary gift, it will be most appreciated. Wouldn't it be great to finish the job with money left over? That would show the other "Big Dig" how to run a project! The Antrim, New Hampshire way!

Thank you for your support!

— Sharon L Dowling, Chair/ Library Trustees

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CALENDAR

DECEMBER



- 2 *Patron Appreciation Day* • 10:00 AM–4:00 PM • Tuttle Library
- 3 *Tree Lighting* • 4 PM • Memorial Park
- 5 *Brown Bag Coalition* • 11:30 PM • The Grapevine
- 6 *Antrim Grange* • business meeting
- 9 *Spiral Scouts Yule Festival* • 9:00 AM–3:00 PM • Milford
- 9 *Monadnock Chorus Concert* • 8:00 PM • Peterborough Town House
- 10 *Monadnock Chorus Concert* • 3:00 PM • Peterborough Town House
- 11 *Second Mondays, "Family Rituals"* • 6:30 PM • The Grapevine
- 11 *Antrim Youth Chorus Holiday Concert* • 7:00 PM • AES
- 15 *Ski Trip to Attitash Bear Peak* • 7:30 AM • meet at Town Hall
- 16 *Stop, Drop & Shop* • 10:00 AM • The Grapevine
- 16 *Holiday Craft Fair & Sale* • 10:00 AM–2:00 PM • The Grapevine
- 17 *Christmas Pageant* • 10:30 AM • Baptist Church
- 17 *Christmas Concert* • 7:00 PM • Baptist Church
- 19 *People's Service Exchange informational meeting* • 7:00 PM • The Grapevine
- 20 *Antrim Grange* • program meeting
- 21 *Free Community Supper* • 5:30 PM • Presbyterian Church
- 23 *Spiral Scouts Solstice celebration* • contact Jess Baribault
- 24 *Christmas Eve Mass* • 5:00 & 7:00 PM • St Patrick Catholic Church
- 24 *Christmas Eve Service* • 6:30 PM • Presbyterian Church
- 25 *Christmas Day Mass* • 9:00 AM • St Patrick Catholic Church
- 29 *Preschool Story Time* • 10 AM • Tuttle Library



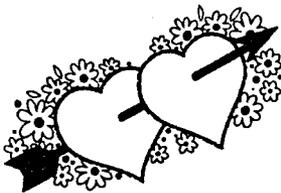
JANUARY

- 1 *New Year's Day Mass* • 8:00 AM • St Patrick Catholic Church
- 2 *Brown Bag Coalition* • 11:30 PM • The Grapevine
- 3 *Antrim Grange* • business meeting
- 7 *Ski Trip to Mt Sunapee* • 11:00 AM • meet at Town Hall
- 8 *Second Mondays, "Project LIFT"* • 6:30 PM • The Grapevine
- 9 *Strong Living program begins* • 1:30 PM • The Grapevine
- 15 *"Raising Your Spirited Child" series begins* • 5:30–7:00 PM • The Grapevine
- 16 *People's Service Exchange informational meeting* • 7:00 PM • The Grapevine
- 17 *Ski Trip to Mt Sunapee* • 8:00 AM • meet at Town Hall
- 17 *Antrim Grange* • program meeting
- 18 *Free Community Supper* • 5:30 PM • Presbyterian Church



FEBRUARY

- 5 *Home & Harvest Day meeting* • contact Rick Davis
- 6 *Brown Bag Coalition* • 11:30 PM • The Grapevine
- 7 *Antrim Grange* • business meeting
- 11 *Stop, Drop & Romance* • 4:00–7:00 PM • The Grapevine
- 12 *Second Mondays, "Raising Teens in Complex Times"* • 6:30 PM • The Grapevine
- 14 *Ski Trip to Cannon Mt* • 7:00 AM • meet at Town Hall
- 15 *Free Community Supper* • 5:30 PM • Presbyterian Church
- 20 *People's Service Exchange informational meeting* • 7:00 PM • The Grapevine
- 21 *Antrim Grange* • program meeting
- 22 *Family Health Night with NHPTV* • 6:00–7:30 PM • The Grapevine
- 26 *Open Playroom* • 9:30 AM • The Grapevine
- 27 *Parent-Child Playdate* • 9:30 AM • The Grapevine
- 29 *Crafts for Children ages 7-9* • 10:00 AM • The Grapevine



HOME & HARVEST DAYS

A GREAT CELEBRATION

By Rick Davis

Antrim really shined! One of the highlights was the International Slalom Skateboarding Association race down Summer Street. A big thank you to Brian Beihl who organized this exciting event. Everyone enjoyed the Lions Club ham & bean supper, the Presbyterian Church breakfast, the wonderful Antrim Players play, and the Soap Box Derby. Main Street was flooded with talented crafters, and the parade with its many floats, Conval and Shriners bands, fire trucks, and local organizations was splendid. The Grapevine auction was a great success, raising \$7,235 for its community programs. More than 200 kids had a blast in the Crazy Maze at Shea Field, and the two-day celebration ended with a terrific bang at Tenney Farm with cookout, concert, and spectacular Atlas fireworks display. I want to thank my H&H committee who worked so hard: Mark & Donna Lyon, Monica Lemaire, Chris & Christa Sality, Ericka Leonard, Jonas Taub, Ted Brown, Janet McEwen, Lauren Kirkpatrick. See you next year! If you want to help, the first meeting is 5 February 2007.

Thanks to Sponsors: Town of Antrim, Ocean National Bank, Brailsford Co., Monadnock Paper Mill, Dunkin Donuts, Antrim Lumber, Boxes On Board, Rick & Diane's Pizza, Homicz & Perry, Lake Sunapee Bank, Great Brook Veterinary, Edmunds Hardware, Hidden Hill Farm, Eastern Mountain Sports, Burke Electric, Robblee Tree Service, T-Bird Mini-Mart, Steve Jones, John & Diane Kendall, Cook's Garage, Antrim Flooring, Dugree's Auto, Harding Plumbing, Apple Shed Realty, Monadnock Community

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INSIDE THE ANTRIM GIRLS SHELTER

By Harlow Richardson

What emotions does a young woman have when she enters the Antrim Girls Shelter? Only the girls could tell you, but they probably range from fear, anger, and anxiety to rejection and hostility. There are probably as many emotions as there are clients at AGS.

Randa Tenney, Manager of the facility, says that there is a noticeable improvement in the girls' attitudes and actions within the first week. Is it the welcome gifts that are colorfully and neatly displayed in the cubbies in the hall: fluffy new towels and facecloths with a special treat and a ribbon? Or is it the fresh neat double rooms with comfortable beds, a small table with storage space for personal items or photos, and an armoire? Very likely for many the accommodations here are a big improvement over the conditions they had at home. Maybe it is the array of exotic drums displayed against a wall mural of dancing, jumping silhouettes of girls made by the

residents by tracing their own figures. Looking at those images in my recent tour of the facility, I couldn't help feeling that the figures on the wall represented an emergence from a dark past into a brighter future!

Staying in the program for about sixty days, the girls are surrounded not with walls but with a system that defines good and bad behavior. They quickly see that good behavior results in praise and rewards. Bad behavior incurs clearly defined consequence, such as loss of privileges. There is zero tolerance of profanity. Many facets of the shelter's philosophy are modeled after the programs that have served so well at Father Flanagan's Boys' Town: clear definition of goals and expectations with definite rewards or consequences. Many of the residents have not had this concept in their lives.

I couldn't help comparing the AGS to a good preparatory school. The academic program is a structured school day with morning and afternoon classes meeting the requirements of the State Department of Education and having two State certified Special Education Teachers. How many public schools or, for that matter, private

schools, have a ratio of students to faculty of 8/1? If that's not enough, it is a full boarding facility with a rounded program of academic and physical activities, the goal of which is to help these girls redirect their lives.

Girls who enter the program must be referred by judges who consider whether the shelter or more secure confinement is appropriate. Those who complete the program may return to their parents or to foster environments, but they will certainly take with them a model of a better life than they had previously known. There is not always room in the shelter, but for sixteen fortunate girls it is a great opportunity.

So what is behind the gorgeous front of the Antrim Girls Shelter building on Main Street? Positive behavior modeling and rewards, clearly defined behavioral expectations and consequences, facilities for family visits in a lovely Victorian sitting room, regular visits by a registered nurse, zero tolerance of profanity, a structured school program, recreation such as building snow figures or scarecrows on the lawn, and more. These are all part of the Antrim Girls Shelter. ❁

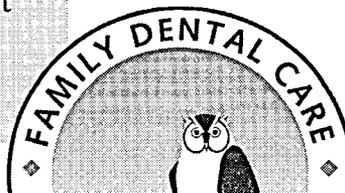


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A DELICATE SITUATION

By Dr. Tom Dowling
Great Brook Vet Clinic

Being a vet can be challenging sometimes. But it's not always the mystery of solving a confusing medical case that tests us though. More often, the challenge lies in getting through to concerned owners just what their pet is dealing with and what should be done about it.

Choosing the right words can be difficult sometimes. Case in point involves the issue of body weight.

In our practice, we tend to tiptoe lightly around what the staff calls the "O-word". What (you may ask) is the "O-word"? The "O-word" is "obesity". That's O-B-E-S-I-T-Y. Also called F-A-T! And "obesity" is not an obscenity, although some pets are obese to the point that it is obscene.

Body weight and condition are critically important to good health. Usually, what we see is what you've got. Too fat is too fat, and saying this in terms that attempt to placate an owner is in plain language a disservice to them and their pet.

Obesity is considered to be the most common form of malnutrition. Some sources report that 25 to 40 percent of cats and dogs

brought to vet clinics are obese. I would certainly agree with that. And just to be clear, malnourished does not mean "underfed," but rather poorly or incorrectly fed.

As you would expect, obesity has a strong connection to health problems in just about every physical system of the body. It increases the incidence of arthritis, sugar diabetes, liver disease, urinary tract disease and urinary incontinence, constipation, skin disorders, heart and lung problems, and it greatly increases anesthetic and surgical risks.

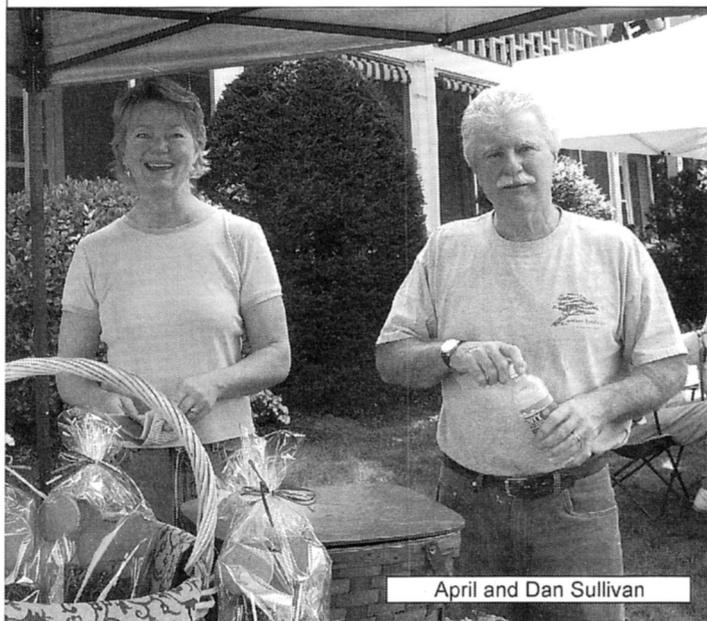
How do pets get so fat? No need to answer a question so obvious. To quote a textbook, "obesity develops when energy intake consistently exceeds daily energy expenditure." In plain English, it happens when you feed them too much and don't exercise them enough. Sounds kind of similar to a lot of people, doesn't it?

To own a pet is to respect it for what it is and what it gives us, and we must treat and care for it properly. We owe that to our pets and to ourselves.

Peace and Joy!

*

HOME AND HARVEST DAYS

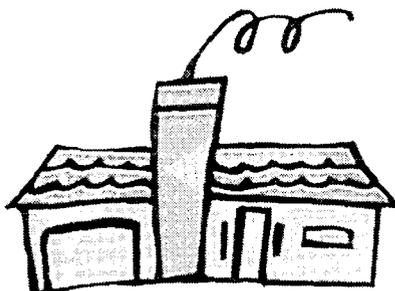


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NEWS ABOUT TOWN

GIRL SCOUTS

By Jeana White

Girl Scouting in the Great Brook area has gotten off to a terrific start this year! Close to 100 girls and 25 adults have registered in the area composed of Antrim, Bennington, Frankestown, and Hancock. Many leaders have returned from last year, and several new leaders have stepped forward to take on troops. We offer programs for girls of all interests and abilities, from Kindergarten through high school. Girls meet regularly in troops and share in community events throughout the year.

One of the year's most popular events is our annual Fall Fest, this year generously sponsored by Tenney Farm. After a morning of painting pumpkins, bobbing for apples, making scarecrows, and playing games, the highlight came when Eric Tenney took the girls on a wild and crazy (and really bumpy) hayride!

The girls are busy planning their next community event, a holiday craft fair at Great Brook School. At this fair, each troop sponsors a station where girls can make a lovely hand-crafted gift for a loved one. Throughout the evening, as the older girls help the younger girls with their projects, they have great fun and also learn that they are part of an energetic and caring Girl Scout community.

Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. If this sounds like the place for you or a girl you know, please contact Jeana White at 588-3014 or JeanaWhite1@comcast.net for more information. ❄️

SPIRALSCOUTS LOOKS AHEAD TO WINTER ACTIVITIES

By Jess Baribault

The first annual Celebrate Samhain event on October 29 was a wonderful success! A tremendous showing by both Pagans and other community members (about 500-600 in all) enabled Silverling Circle #58 to collect over 150 pounds of food for the Antrim-Bennington area food bank, plus two huge boxes of new winter clothing for the Mitten Tree. We also raised over \$500 for the Granite (NH) Tribe, which will help new scout families and volunteers to join and pay for badges, award pins, field trips, and future service projects. More than that, people came together to celebrate, make new connections, and build community. A great thanks to all who came to participate, and an invitation to Celebrate Samhain next year!

At our November meeting we enjoyed crafts and activities related to the Wheel of the Year, a symbol used by many Earth-centered traditions to depict the cycles of season in Nature. The Winter Solstice is one of eight special days in the Wheel observed in Pagan tradition. When the shortest day and longest night arrive, and the sun slowly regains its strength, we celebrate!

On December 9, please join us for the second annual Yule Festival in the Ancient Tradition. This is an all-ages celebration of the Solstice, with a dazzling selection of vendors, live Celtic harp music, a drum circle, storytelling, make-and-take crafts for

children and adults, a bake sale, raffle, and more. We will again collect much-needed food and winter clothing for charity; your donations make a huge difference. The Yule Festival is 9:00-3:00 at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Milford. Please call for more information or to volunteer before or during the event.

On December 23, we are looking forward to an enchanting outdoor gathering to celebrate the Solstice in a more peaceful way. The details are a secret, but anyone interested is invited to get in touch and join us.

After the New Year, we will begin our Gold Club Project. This is a series of four meetings in which we will establish new traditions, set goals for the year, and grow as a Circle. This is a good time to get involved, as we will be planning our activities for late winter and early spring. On tap: a celebration of Brigid's Day (Imbolc), snowshoeing, birding, snow castle building, and perhaps a trip to the Sap Gathering Contest at Stone-wall Farm.

On behalf of Silverling Circle and Granite Tribe, I wish everyone a safe, joyful, and warm holiday season, and invite you to join us at our next gathering. Jess Baribault, Granite Tribe Coordinator, SpiralScouts International SpiralScoutsJess@yahoo.com or 588-4219. ❄️

ANTRIM GRANGE

Antrim Grange sent two delegates to the State Grange session in Keene where they voted on various resolutions regarding Grange policy and operations, and elected a new slate of officers. Beth Merrill was elected and installed as the first woman Master (President) of the New Hampshire State Grange. She and her husband, Arthur, were the NH delegates at the National Grange convention in Springfield, IL in November.

The members look forward to continuing the tradition of baking and decorating cookies to serve at the Antrim Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony. For the fifth 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>. ❄️

MONADNOCK CHORUS RACHMANINOFF VESPERS

The Monadnock Chorus, under the direction of Dr. Carroll Lehman, will present Rachmaninoff's *All-Night Vigil*, also known as the *Vespers*, Saturday, December 9 at 8:00 pm and on Sunday, December 10 at 3:00 pm at the Peterborough Town House.

Sergei Rachmaninoff composed the *Vespers* in 1915 during his most active compositional period. Nine of the 15 movements are based on Russian chant melodies. For the remaining six he composed melodies to sound like chant. The *Vespers* reveal a deep connection with Russian folk history and the Orthodox Church. Sung a cappella, in many sections the usual four choral parts split into eight. The program also includes three Ukrainian Christmas carols.

Anton Belov, former voice student of Dr. Lehman at Keene State, will appear as visiting clinician and share conducting privileges. A native of Moscow, Mr. Belov has won many prizes, appeared in numerous operatic roles, and specializes in Russian lyric diction. He has coached the chorus for this performance.

The cost of tickets in advance is \$17, or \$20 at the door. Children 18 and under, \$10. Purchase a block of 8 or more tickets for \$15 each. You may purchase tickets on the website www.monadnockchorus.org, or at Steele's, or at the Toadstool Bookshops in Peterborough and Milford. ❄️

JAMES A. TUTTLE LIBRARY

By Kristin Readel

Celebrate year-end excitement at Antrim's James A. Tuttle Library. Join us on Saturday, December 2nd at 10 a.m. for **Patron Appreciation Day** to celebrate change with us. Enjoy refreshments as you browse winter holiday books and music selections. Get the scoop on the building project. Pick up your newly bar-coded patron card and try it out. Take advantage of the day's amnesty to return overdue materials. Get your tickets for the Winter Com-forts Basket raffle.

In order to finish our new automation process, we will be **closed** for the week of Monday, November 27th through Friday, December 1st. Interlibrary Loan services will be suspended from November 24th to December 11th as we acquaint ourselves with the new computer hardware. We look forward to providing a higher level of service to our patrons as we transition to an automated materials checkout process.

Our last **preschool story time** of 2006 will be on Friday, December 29th at 10 a.m.

Don't forget to take advantage of our newly installed **wireless connection** that allows you to bring your computer to the library and use the Internet. Also, we now have two computers available for public access to the Internet.

We are all grumbling about **parking**, so you know the new building addition is under way. Please park in the front of the building along the sidewalk, in spots available in the Grapevine lot, and occasionally in the lower lot depending on the construction equipment on site. Please be extra merciful and keep the handicap access spots closest to the building open. Don't hesitate to speak with us if we can help ease this transition in any way.

We want to thank all of our patrons for their enthusiastic support, understanding, and encouragement as the staff makes these exciting changes.

Winter Holiday Closings: Christmas-Monday & Tuesday, December 25 & 26, 2006; New Year's Day-Monday, January 1, 2007; Martin Luther King Day-Monday, January 15, 2007; President's Day-Monday, February 19, 2007

"Outside of a dog, books are man's best friend. Inside of a dog, it's too dark to read."

—Groucho Marx

GREAT BROOK SCHOOL

By G. Bruce West, Principal

As we come to the end of our first trimester, there are many things to share about the work and fun we have had at Great Brook School.

On November 21, as part of our **Thanksgiving Assembly**, we honored past athletic teams who had excelled throughout their entire seasons. GBS alumni were in attendance as we raised banners donated by last year's PAC committee. They also joined us for our annual Turkey Trot.

5th grade students are collecting important scientific data for the GLOBE program, a worldwide, hands-on science experience. This fall student teams selected a deciduous tree in the GBS wetlands to study. Students observed their tree two times a week and compared color changes in its leaves with colors in the GLOBE Plant Color Guide. These data were recorded by students and then reported to GLOBE scientists via the Internet. Students will test the water quality of the GBS wetlands for the GLOBE program later this year. Specific water quality tests will include dissolved oxygen, ph, and temperature. We welcome any parents who would like to help our student scientists collect these data.

On Wednesday, November 8th, one hundred 6th grade students boarded busses for a visit to the **Museum of Science in Boston**. They enjoyed many exhibits, including displays about the human body and weather, topics we are pursuing in our science curriculum. Some of the highlights of the trip included actually touching sheep lungs, the very loud and dramatic lightening show, and of course the cute little Tamarin monkeys. The 6th graders returned to GBS tired, happy, and full of enthusiasm about the things they learned and saw.

On Wednesday, November 15, 8th grade students in Mr. Anderson's science class had a successful **science technology fair**. Student presentations included topics involving magic, car safety, peer pressure, environmental protection, cosmetology, sensory issues, and medicines. Students and teachers from other grades visited the exhibits throughout the morning, and Mr. Anderson felt that the projects were extraordinary.

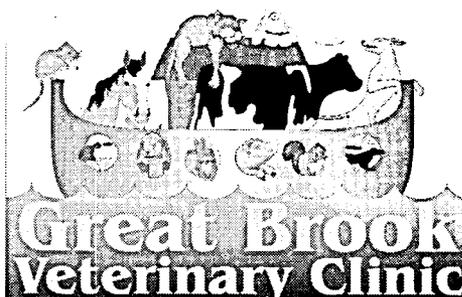
MATH

by Hannah Ellingwood, 7th grade

In math, we have been working on graphing, timing, and distance. In class, we have been making tables and graphs about a bike tour. During one of the classes, we had to make a table showing how many jumping jacks we could accomplish in two minutes. One person in the group was the timer, and every ten seconds, they would say the time. Another person wrote down how many jumping jacks the jumper had done so far. The average number of jumping jacks in my group was 111.5. It was a lot of fun.

As you may know, our Student Congress initiated a school-wide fundraising effort in support of alum Scott Quilty who was injured in the war in Iraq. As a school, we raised over \$1,300 dollars.

As we move forward this year, we will be looking at a number of school-wide initiatives to improve your student's educational experience. Your feedback is always welcome. *



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GOT SAVVY?

By Beth Merrill

In today's horse world, a great deal of segregation and separatism exists. Whether it is Quarter Horse owners vying against Morgan owners, horse show enthusiasts rivaling endurance riders, or draft horse shows versus miniature horse shows, it's amazing at how little common ground there is among equestrians who enjoy unlimited diversity when it comes to breeds and types of competitions. Recently, however, I attended an event where all of that took a back seat to the one thing that brought us all together—the 2006 Parelli Savvy Conference.

Last September, my sister and I went on a pilgrimage to Pagosa Springs, Colorado, where we were joined by horsemen from all across the continent and world, who like us, are studying Parelli Natural Horsemanship. We pilgrims ranged in age from young and athletic to old and achy, from wealthy to economically challenged, from pedigreed herd owners to single backyard horse owners, from lifetime horsemen to first-time owners. There were Texas ranchers, English dressage competitors, Australian reiners, Italian show jumpers, and Chilean drivers. None of this mattered. We were all there for one reason—our quest to be better humans for the sake of our horses.

Pat and Linda Parelli opened their beautiful ranch to 2,000 eager students and gave us three days of demonstrations, instruction and inspiration. Despite a lot of rain throughout the weekend, we were personally greeted each morning at the gate by the president of the Parelli Corporation. Happy, friendly staff members were everywhere and there was no part of the ranch that we did not

have access to explore. Everything was highly professional and first-class, right up to the complimentary dinner and dance on Saturday night. Pat Parelli is a showman, through and through, but his desire for all horse people to be savvy and safe is evident in every presentation he makes. His wife, Linda is the consummate educator, and thanks to her, the Parelli home study kits are a worthwhile investment for any student.

The main focus of PNH is learning to communicate using human simulations of the horse's natural behavior within the herd. We know that in order to gain a horse's respect, we must establish ourselves as its trusted leader. That's not easy to do for a prey animal, which even after centuries of domesticity, still relies on its survival instinct whenever it feels threatened. Understanding such philosophies as "he who moves his feet first is the loscr" or "always start and return to the friendly game" or "take the time it takes, so it takes less time" or "it's not about the trailer (or any other obstacle), it's about the quality of the leadership" helps us establish ourselves in the role of alpha horse, and thus, receive permission from the horse to be in charge.

I have been so engrossed in learning and developing my communication skills using Parelli's Seven Games for horses that only recently I realized how little riding I have done. People driving by my ring on West Street may wonder at the unusual postures I sometimes use, or the assortment of toys and obstacles assembled there, or wonder about the only horse entered in the Home and Harvest parade that was not ridden or pulling a cart. When I do ride using some new ideas and techniques presented by the Parellis, it is an experience far beyond anything I've known in my previous four decades of horsemanship. I find great self-satisfaction knowing that the time I've invested in learning these skills is benefiting me, my horses, and the people who come in contact with them.

In my two and a half years of study with this system, the most amazing thing to me has been how much better I am at understanding the dynamics of human to human communication. Recently, I took on a new leadership position within the State Grange and have been using Parelli Natural Horsemanship techniques to get me through the initial bumps and trials of this important position. It's apparent that you don't have to have a horse in order to learn, grow, and benefit from PNH. You just gotta have savvy. I think Linda Parelli summed it up best at a Tour Stop in Pennsylvania earlier this year. She said, "Why be who you are when you can be so much better?"

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LIMERICK CONTEST

The complete-the-limerick contest in the September Limrik received six excellent submissions from Ann B. Allison, Tom Dowling, Pauline Gilman, Woody Woodworth, Genie Woodworth, and Brian Ageiff.

Here is the winning completion from Brian Ageiff who wins a \$50 gift certificate at the Toadstool Bookstore in Peterborough:

"Our downtown is nearly complete:
New pavement and curbs on the street,
A new rub-a-dub,
Fill out our new hub,
New street lamps make night time a treat."

Here's our new contest. Whoever submits the best last line to this limerick by our resident Limericist Harlow Richardson will win a \$50 gift certificate at the Toadstool Bookstore:

"Today I sat down by Great Brook.
My mind opened up an old book.
I saw wheels taking power,
Making cribs... milling flour,
_____."

PRINCIPAL MUSINGS

Debbie Lesure, Principal
Antrim Elementary School

Whew...this fall has been a whirlwind. So much happens in school during the early fall. The beginning of this year has been more challenging than usual. Our children have been very involved in testing. I'm not sure how I feel about it.

Please understand. I feel strongly that we need to evaluate children and their learning on a regular basis. As educators, we need to know what children know and what they need to know to make progress. I want every student at Antrim Elementary School to make a year's growth each and every year. If we spend time teaching what children already know, new learning cannot occur. Careful assessment lets us know if children need more instruction in specific areas, such as comprehension strategies, written expression, or math facts. One of my core beliefs is often noted in current educational literature: *Assessment drives instruction.*

NWEA-MAP (Northwest Evaluation Association-Measures of Academic

Progress) testing provides that type of information. MAP scores are aligned with state standards for education. This district-chosen computerized assessment adjusts to student levels, and provides teachers a picture of each student's learning at a given point in time. Results provide individual student learning goals. Next spring, teachers will get follow-up scores highlighting each child's progress this year. Each score, in effect, follows the child. Conval is one of the New Hampshire school districts chosen as a "Follow the Child" district. The intent is to allow for more individualized instruction, focused on each child's needs.

NECAP stands for New England Common Assessment Program. This mandated test is also aligned with state grade-level equivalents. It is this test that New Hampshire uses to determine Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) and is required under the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act. At the elementary level, there are six subtests (three reading, three math). It is long and challenging for young children. How many eight-year olds do you know who can sit

 continued on next page

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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- POLICE ASSOCIATION
- LIONS CLUB
- PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
- HISTORICAL SOCIETY
- CHURCH OF CHRIST
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To Add Your Support Group Call Us @ 588-4880

*one donation per buyer or seller, not to exceed \$500.00 per transaction



Antrim/Bennington Office
582-D Route 47 • Bennington
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E-Mail: redcoatben@tds.net

Principal Musings continued

for up to 90 minutes? Each testing session is that long. NECAP testing measures this year's third graders against last year's third graders. They are such different groups... different learners...different dynamics. NECAPs are administered in grades three through eight.

Looking **only** at the final test results will not provide us with the information teachers can really use. Numerical scores may, in fact, be very misleading. Sometimes, our students can do the tasks, but do not understand what is really being asked. Let me give you some examples (adapted from the tests). Asked how different combinations of clothing could be *picked* given a number of shirts and shorts, one child responded, (1) Eeny, Meeny, Miney, Moe, (2) Close eyes and pick, (3) Ask Mom to help. The question was really asking how many combinations the child could make. I think the student was very creative! She probably won't get any points. On another question, the student was asked to explain, "Why did Johnny say that three plus three is six?" I believe the student was expected to write a number sentence or draw a picture showing addition. The student answered, "Because everyone wants to be right!"

Testing has become a big part of education. Perhaps it is meant to hold schools accountable for learning. Perhaps this reflects our data-driven society. At Antrim Elementary School, teachers and I hold ourselves accountable. We look at school data, but we also look at student performance. We want the children to learn. We need to know how and what to teach each student. We want everyone to be right!

HAPPENINGS AT ANTRIM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:

In our Reverence of Place Project, we are collaborating with the Harris Center and

Project Learning Tree in developing a Forest Quest at the McCabe Forest.

Antrim Fire Department spent a day here teaching our students about fire safety.

Our Open House had near perfect attendance. Thank you families!

AES will have a New Hampshire Dance Residency the week of December 4th through 8th with an evening performance.

Kathy Mallet, author/illustrator of eight children's books spent the day at AES on November 14th.

First Friends Preschool went to McLeod's Apple Orchard in Hancock. They've made lots of apple snacks!

Kindergarten went to the Colonial Theater in Keene to see Leo Lionni books, including Frederick the Mouse, come alive on stage!

Mrs. Stacy's class spent a fun-filled morning at Tenney Farm.

Mrs. Bluhm's class explored McCabe and learned about the seasons.

Kindergartners had their parents in for Mom's Muffins and Dad's Donuts.

First graders went to McCabe to learn about insect life in meadows.

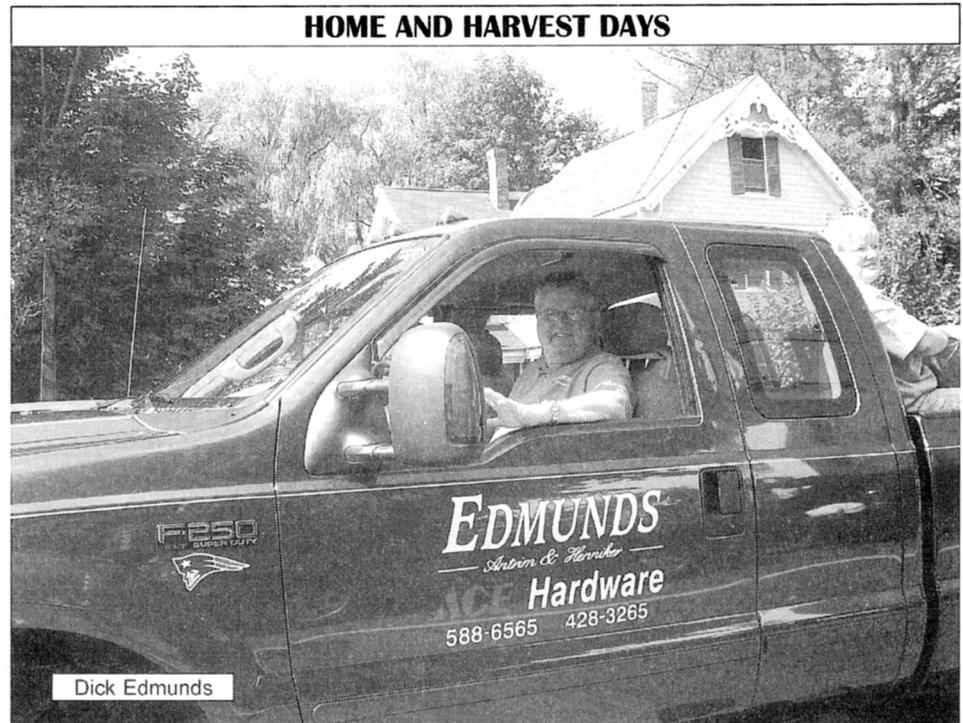
First graders went to the Peterborough Historical Society to learn about colonial kitchens.

Second graders went to the Peterborough Historical Society to learn about schools in the 1800's.

Third grade went to Kendall Ledges in Temple to further their study of rocks and minerals.

Fourth graders spent a great day learning about life in early NH at the Old Fort at No. Four in Charlestown.

Dr. David Goodby came and spoke with 4th Graders about the history of the Abenaki.



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HORSING AROUND ANTRIM

By Schatze Moore

As a child I was what people called "horse crazy." I drew horses, I talked horses, I collected horse stuff, I dreamt about horses, read about horses, and I played I was a horse. I even wore my hair long and in my face like the mane and forelock horses have. My parents told me the first time I saw a horse they thought I meant to leap out the window. My mother also tells the story of the time we had stopped at a Trading Post and someone had a horse tethered nearby. I got away from my mom and approached the horse at a pretty good clip with every intention of climbing aboard. My mother was just grateful the horse was "ancient and unflappable"

I would say I come by my love of horses naturally, as it appears that on both sides of my family horses are favored.

When I was eight years old my parents, siblings, and I went to visit my father's family in Pennsylvania. One of my girl cousins offered to take me for a ride on the family pony. We had to walk at least a mile to the barn where the pony was kept. In a short while we had the pony ready and were heading back to my grandmother's house. The pony and I were riding through a beautiful hay field where the grasses were growing tall and lush and certainly tempting to the pony. I let the pony stop and put his head down to the grass. Walking along behind was my cousin who misunderstood the scene before her. She came up and gave that unsuspecting creature quite a clap on his hindquarters. The poor little guy was so spooked and reacted the way that made sense to him. With his head high he turned and took off at a hard gallop for his barn. I in

the meantime had lost my reins and decided I should try a quick dismount. The plan didn't work and I ended up being dragged quite a distance before my shoe worked its way off and my foot slipped free of the stirrup.

Probably my parents hoped "my accident" would put me off horses, but here I am 52 years old and a few more accidents later, still hoping to find time in my day to ride.

My friend, Nancy, a horse lover and at times my riding coach, lent me her copy of *A Lady's Life in the Rocky Mountains*. The book is by an Englishwoman, Isabella Bird, who made a mostly solitary riding tour of the Rocky Mountains in the fall and winter of 1873. Reading Isabella's book, I envied her opportunity to spend so much time out of doors and on horseback.

This summer my riding buddy, Laurie, and I were pretty determined to get out with our horses as often as possible and explore as much of our area as we could. By searching out roads "less traveled," we like to find our way to places most people do not get to in cars. Even though Laurie and I both have very calm and road-sensible horses, neither of us likes to ride in traffic. We seek the woods' quiet solitude.

One gorgeous day in September Laurie and I were planning to ride a big loop from Antrim into Hancock and back into Antrim again. We were riding the Class VI section of Brimstone Corner Road. (Class VI wood roads are not maintained and seldom used.) It was just the four of us out there, and I felt moved to say, "This is just what my soul has been needing. This is heaven." Then I heard the hum of an engine. I imagined a four-wheeler or dirt bike, when

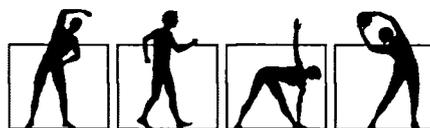
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The Bond Wellness Center
~ Monadnock Community Hospital

www.monadnockhospital.org

Monadnock Community Hospital is a not-for-profit health care provider offering comprehensive health care services to the Monadnock Region.
Financial Assistance information is available upon request.

all of a sudden the oversized winch-crowned steel nose of a jeep torqued it's way over the bony crest of the old and peaceful road. Not a problem, we had room enough to pull aside, but after the third jeep..."Just how many of you are there"? "Ten!"

Deep in the woods we waited patiently for ten loud jeeps to pass before we could get on our way.

It took me a little while...



JOSH CHANDLER IN IRAQ

PFC Joshua Chandler, a Military Policeman with the 1st Calvary Division, Blackjack Brigade, out of Fort Hood in Texas, left for a one-year tour in Iraq on Oct 18, just three days before his 21st birthday. He works at a prison processing prisoners, and he escorts those released out to the edge of the Red Zone.

The last time I spoke with Josh he told me that he has been chosen to go before the "soldier of the month" board, and if he passes the board he believes he will be promoted to Specialist.

Josh is my son. His Grandparents are Clarence and Alma Chandler, all from Antrim.

I would like to ask people to keep Josh in their prayers, along with all the other soldiers currently serving in our armed forces.

— Paul Chandler

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

By Henry W. Longfellow



I heard the bells on Christmas Day

Their old familiar carols play,

And wild and sweet the words repeat

Of peace on earth, good will to men.

And in despair I bowed my head;

"There is no peace on earth," I said,

"For hate is strong, and mocks the song

Of peace on earth, good will to men."

Till ringing, singing on its way,

The world revolved from night to day,

A voice, a chime, a chant sublime,

Of peace on earth, good will to men.



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Shrimp and Scallop Pan Roast.....	\$8.95

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Malarkey's House Side Salad.....	\$3.95
Classic Caesar Salad.....	\$5.95
Add Chicken \$3.50 Add Shrimp (5) \$4.50	
Classic Wedge Salad.....	\$5.95
Chili Tortilla Salad.....	\$7.95
Pear Salad.....	\$8.95
Firehouse Chili.....	\$6.95
Soup Du Jour	Priced Daily

LIGHTER ENTRÉES

Sandwiches are served with choice of French fries, potato chips or coleslaw	
Grilled Reuben.....	\$7.95
The Malarkey Burger.....	\$7.95
Monte Cristo Puff	\$7.95
Haddock Sandwich.....	\$8.95
Country Club Steak and Cheese sub.....	\$8.95
Grilled Lamb Pita Pocket	\$8.95
Pulled Pork Sandwich	\$7.95

ENTRÉES

Served with seasonal vegetable and choice of garlic mashed potatoes, roasted sweet potatoes or rice pilaf (Excluding pasta meals)	
Grilled Lamb	\$14.95
Haddock Picatta.....	\$15.95
Steak Tip Dinner..... ½ Pound.....	\$10.95
Add Shrimp Scampi (5).....	\$4.50
The Tavern Sirloin.....	\$16.95

Filet Mignon.....	\$23.95
Whiskey Marinated Pork Chops....	\$15.95
Pecan Encrusted Chicken.....	\$12.95
Buttermilk Fried Chicken	\$13.95
Chicken Cacciatore.....	\$14.95
Butternut Ravioli.....	\$13.95
Seafood Newburg.....	\$15.95

CLASSIC ENTRÉES

Irish Stew with flakey herb biscuits..	\$8.95
Turkey Pot Pie	\$8.95
Fish & Chips.....	\$10.95
Bacon Wrapped Country Meatloaf..	\$10.95

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Spinach & Garlic Pizza	\$7.95
Basic Three Cheese Pizza.....	\$7.95
Barbeque Chicken Pizza	\$8.95
Mediterranean Pizza.....	\$8.95

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BREAKFAST BUFFET SATURDAY & SUNDAY 8am

leave Antrim Town Hall at 11:00, and return at 6 pm. The cost of this trip is \$40, and includes the \$29.00 cost of the lift ticket, skiing from 12-4pm.

Registration for this trip is due by Wednesday January 3rd. Skiers and snowboarders of all ages are welcome, kids under 16 need to have an adult sign up too. On Wednesday January 17th, we will head up to Sunapee for two-for-one day. For this trip, we need an even number of folks to sign up...and \$40 covers your lift ticket and bus ride to Sunapee. This trip leaves Antrim at 8:00 and returns at 4:30. Please register by Friday January 12th. Finally, on Wednesday February 14th, we will venture to Cannon Mountain. For this trip, \$35.00 covers your ski pass and bus ride. The group will depart Antrim Town Hall at 7am, and return at 6:00 pm. Please register by Friday February 9th.

After School Programs Currently, the recreation program is sponsoring after school enrichment programs in Improv,

Chorus, Cooking, Crafts, Basketball, Futsal, Swimming and Storytelling! The current session started in November, but your child may still be able to join. Watch for this program to grow. There is after school programming at the Ree Center every day after school.

Town Gym We have been fortunate to receive a Defibtech Defibrillator through the NH Bureau of EMS. The defibrillator is in the Town Gym Foyer. This will provide potentially lifesaving assistance in the case of a Sudden Cardiac Arrest at the gym or the schools.

There are many activities ongoing at the Recreation Department. Keep an eye on the calendar at the town website, or visit us during open office hours. We are at the Town Ree Office, located next to the Town Gym, on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9-12am; as well as on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30-9pm. You can email us at antrimparks&rec@tds.net, or call us at 588-3121. *

FLUSHED

Readers of "The Honey Wagon" in this *Limrik* interested in the long history of world sewage disposal may wish to read the fascinating *Flushed: How the Plumber Saved Civilization* by W. Hodding Carter. There you will learn about the Harapaan Civilization whose first indoor plumbing dates from 3000BC, the ancient Persian water tunnels called Qanats some of which are still in use, and predecessors to George Edes and his Honey Wagon, the "gongfermors" who served English King Henry VIII in the 16th century by removing sewage from "the Great House of Easement at Hampton Court." *Flushed* is available at the Tuttle Library.

— LG

ARTS HOURS

WED. 2 PM-7 PM

FRI. 9 AM-2 PM

SAT. 9 AM-5 PM



Margot and Barry Kopp with their son Jonah

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For more information or a tour of The Birthing Center, call 924-7191, ext. 4174

"We'd only lived in the Monadnock region for six months when I became pregnant with our first child. We'd heard great things about Monadnock OB/GYN and The Birthing Center. The caring and professional doctors and nurses made my pregnancy and the birth of Jonah the best experience of my life. The doctors were wonderful and every time I thought I'd found the nicest nurse, I met another one! They make you and your family feel like you're the only patient."

— Margot Kopp, Jaffrey

Monadnock Community Hospital is a not-for-profit health care provider offering comprehensive health care services to the Monadnock Region. Financial Assistance information is available upon request.

www.monadnockhospital.org



Monadnock Community Hospital

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NEW ANTRIM BUSINESSES

Agricola

CHIROPRACTOR

Dr. Loyall Cyrus Allen, BS, DC is moving his chiropractic practice from Hillsborough to 46 Main Street in the extension of the fine nineteenth century building originally known as "Union Hall" and later the "Goodell Block" across the street from the library. A statement provided to the *Limrik* by Dr. Allen's wife, office manager, and Registered Nurse, Pamela Reida-Allen, includes the following: "Dr. Allen's mission in practice is to provide chiropractic healthcare to patients and their families in a caring, comfortable, and supportive manner. As a third generation chiropractor, Dr. Allen has personally experienced the benefits of chiropractic care from childhood. He is passionate about sharing those benefits with his patients." In addition to Dr. Allen and his wife, the staff includes Licensed Massage Therapist Heidi Scott, Chiropractic Assistant/Thermography Technician Mary Caron, and Chiropractic Assistant May Egner. The office is scheduled to open December 1st. Visit, or call for an appointment at 588-2900.

RESTAURANTEUR

Scott Wheeler who owns and operates Malarkeys restaurant at the Crotched Mountain Golf Club in Frankestown and Malarkeys Pub in Milford, will be opening a new establishment in Antrim next to the Antrim Marketplace. Scott says it will be a combination pub and light food restaurant, and he hopes to open by mid-December.

BAKER

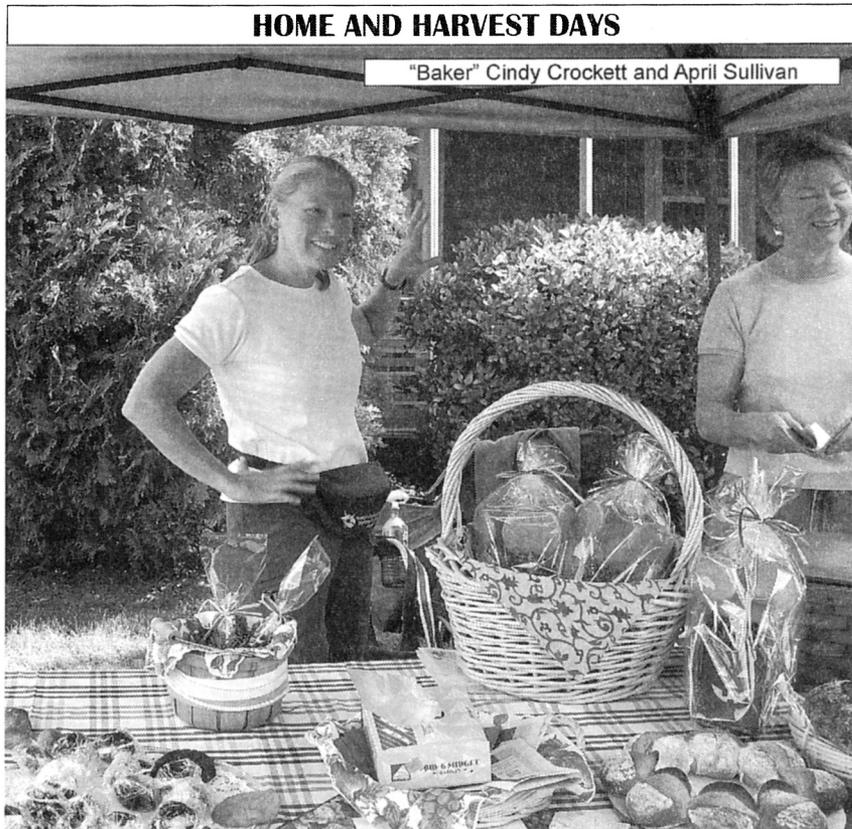
If you stopped by her booth on Home and Harvest Day, you know that Cindy Crockett bakes beautifully! Her baked goods taste delicious too. Cindy plans to open her new bakery by the first of the year in the same building across from the library that houses Dr. Allen's chiropractic practice. This means we shall be able to cure our bodies and satisfy our appetites at a single stop.

ENTREPRENEUR

Juliet Ermitano, new owner of the Maplehurst Inn, the Antrim Marketplace, and the building containing the laundromat, Keung Garden, and soon Scott Wheeler's pub-restaurant, is an entrepreneur who has contributed more than her share of new Antrim businesses. I am very happy that the Antrim Marketplace has taken over for Wayno's store, providing all of us—but especially folks who cannot drive to Hillsborough or Peterborough—with excellent meat, produce, and groceries. I remember with horror the recent period when Wayno's closed and we did not have a local market, and I urge everybody to patronize the Antrim Marketplace as often as possible so that it can remain a vital part of our community. *

HOME AND HARVEST DAYS

"Baker" Cindy Crockett and April Sullivan



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✚ CHURCH NEWS ✚

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM

(CHILDCARE AVAILABLE FOR 4-YEAR OLDS AND UNDER)

SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM

COMMUNION CELEBRATED ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH AND ALL SUNDAYS OF ADVENT

LOGOS Christian Education 12-2 PM

AA Meetings Sundays 7:00 PM

Spectrum Art Association Thursdays 9:00 AM-12 NOON

Free Community Dinners Thursdays at 5:30 PM

December 21, January 18, and February 15

Dance Lessons Fridays at 5:45-8:15 PM

December 24 • Christmas Eve Service 6:30 PM

The Revival Shop, quality used clothing
Open Saturdays 10 AM - 4 PM

CHURCH OF CHRIST

464-2701

LARRY WARREN, MINISTER

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY 10:00 AM

SUNDAY SERVICE 11:00 AM

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 6:30 PM

BAPTIST CHURCH

588-6614

PASTOR CHARLES V. BOUCHER

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL (preschool-8th grade) 10:30 AM

Youths Groups (grades 6-12): Fridays 6:30 pm

December 17 • Christmas Pageant 10:30 AM

December 17 • Christmas Concert 7:00 PM

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588-2180

REV. GERALD BELANGER

MASS WINTER SCHEDULE

SATURDAY 4:00 PM

SUNDAY 8 & 10:30 AM

December 21 • Hours of Reconciliation 3-4 & 6-7 PM

December 23 • Mass 4:00 PM

December 24 • Mass 8:00 AM

December 24 • Christmas Eve Mass 5:00 & 7:00 PM

December 25 • Christmas Mass 9:00 AM

January 1 • New Year's Mass 8:00 PM



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FAX 588-3036

Res. (603) 588-2724

THE GRAPEVINE

By Kristen Vance, Director

WOOD BANK The Grapevine must be ready for winter, because we've got the wood in. In October, a brief ribbon-cutting ceremony, followed by volunteers hauling and stacking nearly 15 cords of wood, marked the "Grand Opening" of our new woodshed for community wood bank. Wayno Olson split most of the wood ahead of time, and Robin Quinn, John Vance, Larry Martel and Wayno split more. The woodshed, built by Tod Bryer of Bryer Builders, was funded by the Samuel P. Hunt Foundation as a result of a grant proposal researched and drafted by Antrim resident Carol Healey. It is set on a concrete slab poured by Webber Foundations, with site work by S.R. Jones Excavation. For the past two years, Robblee's Tree Service in Antrim has been the major supplier of logs. The Grapevine Community Wood Bank offers free firewood on an urgent need, short-term basis to families and individuals in Antrim and nearby towns who use firewood to heat their homes and cannot afford to buy it.

Thank you to the volunteers who loaded the new wood shed: Larry and Donna Martel, Robin (Martel) Quinn, Peter Martel, Lisa Shingler, K.C. Shingler-Martel, Caryn (Martel) Brown, Chad Brown, Kyle Corriveau, Carolyn Gilmore, Wayno Olson, Pam Cleary, John Vance, Kathleen Crawford, Fenton Fitzpatrick, Chris Healey, Christina Reynolds, and Karen Thielen. People who need wood, have wood to donate, or would like to volunteer for the woodbank are asked to call The Grapevine at 588-2620.

AND SPEAKING OF RESOURCES The following are but a few of the exchanges in October between members of The People's Service Exchange:

Four Exchange members helped a member who lives at Antrim Village to move into her new apartment.

A member was driven to important out-of-town doctor and benefits appointments by several members.

A member helped to organize and clean the home of another member, making a more pleasant place for her and her three children to live.

A member received academic support that enabled her to finish her last course and earn her bachelors degree.

A semi-retired couple is getting financial advice from another member.

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 Francestown, and start-up grants from the Henry L. and Patricia J. Nielsen Fund of the NH Charitable Foundation/Monadnock and Endowment for Health. It's easy to join—call Exchange Coordinator Christine Polito at 588-2620 for more information.

WEEKLY CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

The Grapevine welcomes all children birth to 5 years and their parents to our weekly children's programs.

- Mondays 9:30 to 11:30 — Better Beginnings parent-child program
- Mondays 3:00 to 4:30pm — Better Beginnings Together
- Tuesdays 9:30 to 11:30 — Better Beginnings parent-child program

- Thursdays 9:30 to 11:30 — Better Beginnings parent-child program
- Fridays 10:00 to 11:30 — Better Beginnings for Babies

Better Beginnings parent-child programs 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 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.

Better Beginnings Together is a new playgroup for parents and children together. Parents are invited to come by Monday afternoons at 3:00. Playgroup teacher Kim Duthie will be on hand with circle time, activities, outdoor play and a nutritious snack.

Please call Beth at 588-2620 to sign up for programs, or for more information.

Pre-Register in January for The Learning Vine 07/08.

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 spring, and so now is a good time to schedule a visit with The Learning Vine for you and your child. The Grapevine is accepting pre-registrations beginning January (no money required yet) for children who will be 3 to 5 years of age by September 2007.

SPECIAL CHILDREN'S AND FAMILY PROGRAMS

Family Health Night, presented by NH Public TV, Thursday, February 22nd 6-7:30 pm.

Who: Children ages 4-8, parents, teachers, and childcare providers.

What: A free evening of fun and information about family nutrition and fitness.

Topics include: Healthy snacks ideas, meals that are nutritious, delicious AND low cost, What's in it: looking at nutrition facts on packaging, Eat Your Colors and the Food Pyramid, Picky eaters.

Raising Your Spirited Child, a 6-week parenting education series with parenting educator Jane Richards-Jones, M.Ed., Mondays from 5:30 to 7:00 beginning January 15th.

This six-week parenting workshop is based on the book *Raising Your Spirited Child* by Mary Sheedy-Kurcinka. We will be discussing the *9 traits of temperament* which affect how we experience and respond to the world and all its challenges. Some children seem harder to understand and raise, perhaps because of the traits of intensity, persistence, adaptability, mood or sensitivity. Likewise, sometimes parents respond in overly dramatic ways to children's behaviors due to our own temperamental traits.

In this series, parents will become more comfortable with the temperaments of their children and themselves, learn more effective strategies for responding to behaviors, and help their children learn to manage themselves more successfully. The concept of "fit" will be discussed as we work on improving relationships within the family, as well. Stress management techniques and a sense of humor always help, too!

Workshop facilitator Jane Richards-Jones moved to Hancock from Connecticut last spring. Jane's extensive resume includes many parenting workshops on dozens of topics. Onsite childcare

HOME AND HARVEST DAYS

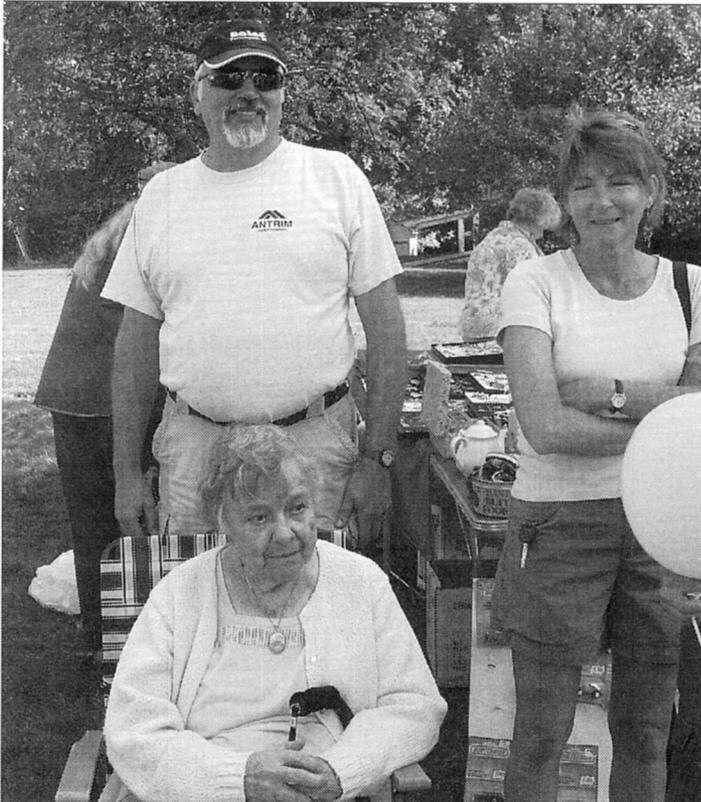
Tenney Farm: Chris Salamy



Spiral Scouts with Don Winchester (carrying flag), Dave Kirkpatrick



David and Kristy Boule with Eleanor Lane



From left to right, Cinda Gilmore, Tom Lawless, Brian Sawich, Melissa and Heather Lawless



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and a pizza dinner can be available for parents who pre-register for the workshop.

FREE FEBRUARY VACATION FUN

Open Playroom—Monday, February 26th from 9:30-11:30 drop in with your infant to 5 year old for open playtime (parents and children together). Kim Duthie will be on hand with activities and a nutritious snack.

Parent-Child Playdate, Tuesday, February 27th from 9:30 to 11:30 join Carol Lunan to 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, February 29th from 10:00-12:00. For 7 to 9 year olds—Create fun and unique crafts and art projects.

SECOND MONDAYS AT THE GRAPEVINE

December 11th—“Family Rituals” with Nancy Macalaster. Come discuss why rituals from simple, daily rituals to holiday traditions are important for children and adults alike. Share stories of your own family rituals and traditions and learn new ideas for simple rituals to add to your family life.

January 8th—Adult Literacy at The Grapevine. Project LIFT Adult Education Program is offering free tutoring services in Antrim at the Grapevine for those interested in studying for their GED examination, English As A Second Language instruction or skill building in areas of math, reading and writing. Tutors and students typically meet once or twice per week for an average of one hour each session. LIFT has been providing free tutoring services since 1992. For information about becoming a student or a tutor in Antrim, please call Judy Fournier, Director: 464-5285.

February 12th—“Raising Teens in Complex Times” with Sharon Cowen from NH Cooperative Extension. Being a parent and having an active role in your child’s life is never more important than during the teen years. Parenting teens with all the challenges of the 21st century can be confusing and difficult. This workshop will help to increase knowledge of adolescent development, introduce parenting strategies for dealing with teens, and discuss the role of parents in the life of today’s teens.

About Second Mondays: Sessions run from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. 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 workshop or discussion? Give us a call!

COMMUNITY SUPPERS

The September Antrim community supper marked the 3rd Anniversary of the 4-Town community suppers, and the Antrim Democratic Committee served up a smorgasbord of hot dishes, garden fresh salads and homemade bread. The October supper, hosted by the Antrim Republicans, featured baked beans, hotdogs, salads, delicacies and desserts. The November spread (which has not been decided upon at this writing) will have been served by members of the Relief Society, the women’s organization of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

The community supper schedule:

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

STRONG LIVING—JANUARY 9th 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 to fill short-term emergency need 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.

Visitation Center: The Grapevine is a DCYF-certified visitation site offering a local, welcoming environment for visits between non-custodial parents and their children. If the parent has no visit supervisor, qualified Grapevine staff may be available to assist.

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 nonprofit service organization funded by grants and charitable contributions.

Wish List: Paper products, Rechargeable Flashlight.



REMEMBER JACQUES BREL?

1929–1978

Jacques Brel was a magically lyrical composer and cabaret singer popular during the 50s–70s. He was born in Belgium but lived most of his life in Paris. A few of his unforgettable songs are “Ne Me Quitte Pas”, “La Valse à Mille Temps”, “Marieke”, “Les Flamandes”, and “Je T’Aime”.

An American musical revue of his songs, *Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris*, debuted off Broadway in 1968 at The Village Gate Theater in New York City and ran for more than four years.

I’ve discovered remastered CDs of his songs and am enjoying him again.

Jacques Brel, I remember him well, do you?

—CFK

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