

The Limrik

A Quarterly Journal

For, by and about the people of Antrim.


Vol. 17 #1
December 2007

THE GRAPEVINE

Kristen Vance

THE TEEN CENTER IS OPEN!

Thanks to the teens' determination, a vote of support from the people of Antrim, a grant from the Gilbert Verney Foundation, an anonymous \$20,000 donation, and generally a lot of good old fashion community effort, the teen center at 42 Main Street is now open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 3 to 6pm, and Saturdays from 2 to 8pm. Teens are invited to come by, hang out, play air hockey (the foos ball and pool tables may be here by the time this is printed!), and let us know what else you'd like to see and do at the teen center. Adults are encouraged to drop in for a visit and to chat with teen center coordinator Dave Kirkpatrick. For more on the teen center, see Dick Winslow's article on page 3 in this *Limrik*.

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RUSS RUSSELL

March 2008 will mark Russ's 10th anniversary of contributing cartoons and illustrations to the *Limrik*. His perspective on life is clearly visible in his artwork—whether serious or comic—especially his play on words (see his new cartoon below). Thank you Russ for the years of enjoyment.



"...NOT QUITE WHAT I MEANT WHEN I SAID LET'S GO HUNT BEAR"

HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING

SUNDAY DECEMBER 2



Antrim Friends of Recreation invites one and all to the 2007 Tree Lighting on Sunday December 2nd. The event will start at Memorial Park at 4:00 PM. Enjoy the sounds of the Antrim Youth Chorus, and watch for Santa's arrival. After the lighting of the Christmas Tree, Santa will walk the celebration over to the Antrim Town Hall, for cookies, cocoa, and the opportunity for some visiting.

This annual event is a wonderful opportunity to visit with friends and neighbors. There will be a raffle and the Friends of Recreation will collect donations for Operation Santa. If you would like more information, please call Janet McEwan at 588-6151.

SKATEBOARD PARK

COMMITTEE

Barbara Reynolds

The Antrim Skateboard Park Committee came about because we recognize and support the benefits of children playing together out of doors while pursuing the physically challenging sports of skateboarding, BMX biking, Scooters, and in-line skating. These are activities we would like to encourage and promote in our town. To those ends, the committee has been working on raising money for some new pieces of equipment for our skateboard park. We have had two very successful fund-raisers: a middle school dance, and a freestyle skateboard competition at the Home and Harvest Day Festival. With assistance from The Friends of Rec, The Antrim Rec Director, Celeste Lunetta, Trends of Fashion Hair Salon, and, our parent and skater volunteers, we were able to raise \$1250.00 towards our goal of \$5,000.00, which is as much money as the committee is asking the Town of Antrim to contribute to this project in 2008. More fund-raising events are in the works for the upcoming year—so stay tuned!

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ANTRIM IN THE CIVIL WAR

(PART 2)

Eric Tenney

In my first article on Antrim in the Civil War, I talked about what happened to our soldiers in the war. This second part will discuss what the town officially did in the war. It will look at the five years of Town Meetings during the war, and what actions the voters took. You will see frustration with the war effort after our citizens realized that the war was going to be long and costly. Costly in terms of loss of life, and costly in money. As I said in the first article, early in the war people joined the army for patriotic reasons—for instance to save the union and to free the slaves—but they soon learned that you could die in the war. By the end of 1862, few of our local citizens were enlisting, so other measures were used to procure enlistments.

1861

At annual Town Meeting \$300 was voted to assist the families of volunteers. Remember, in the Civil War, the pay for a private was \$13 a month. Not only was the amount of pay low, the men did not necessarily receive it monthly. Men,

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Subscriptions:
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 PO Box 30
 Antrim, NH 03440

Please make checks payable to the *Antrim Limrik*. We hope people will keep up with the expiration dates of their subscriptions to the *Limrik*. On the mailing label is the following information: Subs. Exps. 'date'

The Limrik was founded November 1991 by Beverly Tenney, Lois Harriman, and Nancy Timko.

ADVERTISING FEES

Half Page (Back Page)	\$75 per issue
Half Page (Inside Page)	\$65 per issue
Quarter Page	\$45 per issue
Business Card size	\$30 per issue

or \$100 for 4 issues

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

CREDITS

Cartoon on page 1 was created by Russ Russell.

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.

THE ANTRIM SELECTMEN

Steve Schacht

Well, it has been about eight months since I became a selectman for the Town of Antrim, and life for me has become very busy and very interesting.

Antrim has weathered many struggles and come out on top. We have begun or completed several new projects including the entrance to White Birch Point and an accommodation for Construction Debris collection at the A.R.T.S. Center. Also, we have repaired roads, approved new subdivisions, and are continuing to work on the bridges.

The Recreation Committee continues to search for land for ball fields. If you have any suggestions or possibilities, please let us know.

The summer was filled with many activities at Memorial Park, the Town Beach, and Shea Field, including the very successful Home & Harvest Weekend, the popular Antrim in the Evening musical programs, and swimming and other sports. To all of those who worked so hard to make these events possible, thank you.

It is budget time once again. All of the town departments have delivered their proposed figures to the selectmen, and we have begun the process of finalizing these. Each department has worked hard to keep its budgets down for the upcoming year. We invite residents to come to our meetings to listen and to ask questions as this process continues.

Working with the Board of Selectmen has been very interesting and rewarding. I thank Ben, Mike, and Bill for helping me to make the adjustment. There is much to learn and much to do.

Our townspeople's concerns are many and varied, but I am convinced that we are all striving for the same goal, to make Antrim a good town to live and work in. I hope that the people of Antrim will continue to participate in our town, bring their concerns and questions forward, and become part of making our community strong.

Thank you again for your support. The Selectmen want to encourage all residents to become involved as this is your town. It takes everyone to make this a community. We welcome your questions, concerns, and suggestions. ❄

HOME AND HARVEST DAY

All photos by Lyman Gilmore



ANTRIM'S RURAL CHARACTER

The Editor

Several weeks ago Antrim's Shelly Nelkens wrote the *Limrik* voicing her concern about maintaining Antrim's "rural character." I share her concern, as do a majority of Antrim residents who said so in their responses to the recent "Master Plan" survey to discover how we want the town to grow regarding the balance between commercial development and our historic "rural character."

Of course, the word "rural" can mean different things to different people as it is obviously a relative and necessarily vague term. Even my dictionary is ambiguous about what it means. For example, the *Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, 10th Edition* defines rural: "of or relating to the country, country people or life, agriculture," and then defines country: "rural as distinguished from urban areas," which is circular at best. If you want to go back to the source of our English word "rural," you might turn to *The New College Latin & English Dictionary* which says it comes from the Latin word, rus: "county, countryside, land, fields, farm." So, I guess it is pretty clear that "rural" has something to do with fields and farmland and probably woods too.

Now, certainly Antrim is not urban, and while it has at least two working farms, it also has some valuable commercial businesses, and so it is not exclusively rural either. We could probably agree that we are more rural than

Hillsborough and Peterborough, but less rural than Stoddard and Washington. Just how rural and commercial do we want Antrim to be?

This is the question the Planning Board is seeking to answer. It wants to determine exactly how much commercial business currently exists in town, where is it located, how much commercial development Antrim residents want in the future, and where should it be. I spoke with our Town Planner Bradley Houseworth and Planning Board Chairman Brian Sawich who explained that once they establish a "baseline" of the amount and location of current commercial development (mostly along Routes 202 and 9), they will study the wishes of Antrim's residents in the survey, create a plan for future commercial development and zoning regulations, and present their proposal to the people of Antrim for approval or amendment.

If you want to maintain the rural character of Antrim, and if you want to ensure sufficient commercial development to provide a favorable tax base so that people of various means can afford to live in Antrim, then plan to attend meetings of the Planning Board, the Zoning Board, and the Selectmen which are announced regularly on the Town Hall bulletin board, the town website, and in the *Ledger-Transcript*.

TEEN CENTER OPEN

By Dick Winslow

Antrim's sparkling new Teen Center had a grand opening on Halloween. Teen Center Coordinator Dave Kirkpatrick reports that about 100 young people dropped by in small groups spread out over the evening. The Center, at 42 Main Street, is now open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 3 to 6 pm, and Saturdays 2 to 8 pm. It welcomes people in grades 8-12 from Great Brook and ConVal district towns. They may bring guests of appropriate age; a "Drop In" format prevails, but the Center asks patrons to sign in and out. Activities include ping-pong, pool, air hockey, and board games such as backgammon and chess. The Center also has comfortable furniture for resting, reading, and visiting.

Kristen Vance, Executive Director of the Grapevine, facilitated the yearlong process that led to the Center's creation: generating the idea, seeking funds, finding a space, and hiring a director. The idea to have a Center in Antrim (both Hillsboro and Peterborough have their own Centers) came from the Brown Bag Coalition, a citizen group that meets monthly. Specifics were worked out by an adult steering group meeting monthly and a teen steering group meeting weekly. Teens have had a constant and significant input.

The Center's annual budget is \$36,000 to cover rental of space in the newly renovated Antrim Mill building and a Coordinator's salary. Money for this start-up year has come from various sources including grants from the Gilbert Verney Foundation, the Town of Antrim, an anonymous \$20,000 gift, and fund raising efforts by the teens. Seeking funding for future years is, of course, an ongoing process, again being facilitated by Kristen Vance. Incidentally, last winter eleven teenagers attended a town Budget

meeting which included discussion of the Center's request for a \$6000 town contribution by way of a warrant article. Two of those teens—Allie Burnside and Bryan Hebert—spoke on behalf of the teen center at Town meeting, and the request succeeded.

Center Director Dave Kirkpatrick graduated from ConVal High School in 1983, then did a diploma course in music production and engineering at the Berkeley College of Music in Boston. His non-Teen Center work is for A.C.C.E.S.S. where he deals with kids in alternative education and does career counseling. With his wife Lauren and their two young children, Bailey and Angus, he lives on Prospect Street.

Here are the most involved members of the groups that helped develop and launch our new Teen Center:

The Brown Bag Coalition: Sydney Wilson-Smith, Peggi Boyce, Kathy Chisholm, Kathleen Crawford, Judy Hertzler, Janet McEwen, Debbie Lesure, Todd Feyer, Bill Prokop, Sam La Fortune, Celeste Lunetta, Kristen Vance.

Teen Steering Group: Heather, Ryan and Richard Readell, Allie Burnside, Grace Healey, Aaron Taub, K.S. Martel, Larry Warren Jr., Katie Callery, Phillip Eastman, Zach Harrison, Bryan Hebert, Krystal Koban, Mike Johnson, and Becca Bernardi.

Adult Steering Group: Kristin Readell, Kristina Burnside, Carol Healey, Kathleen Crawford, Linda and Larry Warren, Ruth Benedict, Kara Penny, Lisa Shingler, and Mary Ruoff.

Dave Kirkpatrick is very interested in talking with folks who'd enjoy volunteering at the Center—perhaps to teach a specific skill—or who might make donations of games, books, magazines, furniture. He can be reached at the Center (588-3334), or at home (588-3941).



JANICE BROOKS

Janet MacLachlan

Janice Brooks first came to my attention when she used to stop at the Tuttle Library for books on her way home from substitute teaching at one of the surrounding towns. She was a friendly and familiar face to us at the library. Recently Janice and I had the opportunity to sit and talk about her life and her family tree which has deep roots in Antrim soil. She showed me wonderful pictures of her ancestors who lived here in Revolutionary War times. Jonas Whitney took part in the opening skirmish at Concord and chased the British Redcoats back to Boston. Another ancestor, Abner Whitcomb of Massachusetts, took part in the Battle of Bunker Hill. Her great grandfather, Joseph Brooks, sailed around the world on the battleship Constitution before he was a soldier in the Civil War. He died of illness returning from the South.

Janice is understandably proud of her heritage and very knowledgeable about all the different branches of her family who lived in Antrim. She is also related to the three generations of the Holt family, starting with Daniel Holt, Sr., Daniel Holt Jr., and Sam Holt, who lived on Holt Hill for many years.

Janice Brooks was born in Antrim seventy seven years ago, the first daughter of Dalton and Edith Hammond Brooks, and she grew up in a time very different from what we know today. She has a brother, Carlton, who lives in Wilton, and a sister, Joyce Brooks Davison, whose house is just down Clinton Road near the fire station. Janice's family lived in various places in Clinton Village, including Butterfield Farm during her early childhood. Her Aunt Kate, whom she remembers fondly, would take her on long walks around Antrim, so she came to know the countryside well and was at home with its hills and dales.

At one time her family lived at the Flint Farm at North Branch before moving into her grandfather's house on Brookcroft Road off of Clinton Road where she now resides with her daughter. Janice's schooling started in the one-room schoolhouse at Antrim Center for one year, then moved downtown to the big yellow schoolhouse on Main Street. Miss Charlotte Balch was her favorite teacher, and geography her best subject. There were eight pupils in her high school graduating class in 1947: Bob Allison, Bob Dunlap, Howard Humphrey, Betty Whittemore, Pauline Brooks, Rita Nazer, Stasia Dzierzowski, and Janice Brooks who was the class poet. Working at Derby's Department Store in Peterborough from 1948 through 1954 provided Janice with the money to go off to Keene Teachers College. She had first tried nursing school but found she was not suited for it. Her college years at Keene were four of the happiest of her life. She took part in sports, playing basketball and soccer, and she worked in the college library to help pay her tuition. At that time college graduates were given scholarships if they took teaching positions in New Hampshire. Pembroke hired

her as a second grade teacher, and she was there for three happy years. She was given a scholarship to attend Clark University in Worcester where she earned her masters degree and where she met her future husband who had come to this country from Italy. They married and lived in Burlington, Massachusetts, for sixteen years. Her daughter Sara was born during that time. The marriage ended in divorce, but Janice remained in Burlington teaching in the early elementary grades for twenty-two years. In 1986 her mother's illness was a factor in her decision to retire from teaching and return to Antrim to care for her. After her Mother's death, Janice resumed her teaching, doing substitute teaching and finding in her classroom the children of students she had known and taught years earlier. Following successful hip surgery, Janice continues to enjoy her home in Antrim, living near Great Brook where she can hear the water gurgling along, a sound she has enjoyed all her life and hopes to for many more years.



NEWS FROM THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Donna Hanson, Deputy Town Clerk

As many of you know, we have been processing the state portion of your motor vehicle registrations for over four months. The response from Antrim's residents to this change has been overwhelmingly positive, with most registrants grateful that they no longer need to go elsewhere to complete the process. We thank everyone for their patience and understanding while we trained for the conversion and as we continue to learn new aspects of the state system.

In the coming months, we will start to offer renewals of registrations by mail. We will be mailing a renewal notice to you at the end of the month prior to the month your renewal is due. You have the option of renewing your registration(s) by mail or continuing to register in person. When you receive your notice, please read it and carefully follow the directions printed on the renewal notice. All registrations are processed promptly and returned to you. Please note that we cannot process registrations before the beginning of your renewal month. The only exception is if you will be out of town the entire month your renewal is due. If you have any questions when you receive the renewal form, please feel free to call the office at 588-6785, Ext 223.

We are also investigating the possibility of renewals online in the near future. As we weigh the costs and benefits of online renewals, we would like your opinions on whether you would use such a system. We welcome all your comments and questions and are here to assist you in any way we can.

Finally, we extend our heartfelt best wishes to Marita Hammond, our Town Clerk, who has been ailing and is now at home recovering. We miss her greatly, and everyone at the Town Hall joins in wishing her the speediest of recoveries so that she can return to her office as soon as possible. ❁

NORTH BRANCH CAMPUS TO TEACH AGAIN

MAHARISHI ACADEMY FOR TOTAL KNOWLEDGE: HIGH SCHOOL FOR LEADERSHIP TO OPEN FALL 2008

Lyman Gilmore

On a bright day in late October, as I drove over a turbulent North Branch River roiling with autumn leaves—alizarin crimson, raw umber, and cadmium yellow—I got to thinking of all the many times my car rumbled that bridge on my way to teach English at Hawthorne College from 1964 to 1968. I paused and looked down at the eddies around large rocks in the stream where between classes I used to float flies and even once in a while caught little bright-orange bellied native brook trout.

But this trip I was going to visit the Director of the Maharishi Academy for Total Knowledge, Dr. John Boncheff.

It was pleasant to be revisiting the campus again, but I had another reason for nostalgia. After leaving Hawthorne, and while working on a doctorate at Boston University in 1969, I taught at what was then New Hampshire College in Manchester, now Southern New Hampshire University. Some of my students had heard of Transcendental Meditation because its founder, Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, had influenced the Beatles, and the students said they were about to be “initiated” into TM for what seemed to me to be an expensive fee. Concerned for the students’ welfare, I phoned the TM office in Boston and expressed my skepticism, at which I was invited to the Cambridge office to be initiated for no charge. Still doubtful, I accepted, drove down to Cambridge, and learned Transcendental Meditation. What I discovered was that TM can be an effective way to reduce stress, focus one’s mind, and get a good night’s sleep, all of which I badly needed.

Dr. Boncheff met me outside Scarborough Hall, a large east-facing dormitory at the western edge of the campus.

Dark haired and affably serious, he led me through a first-floor hallway, past a kitchen emitting spicy aromas of Indian cooking, to a small simply and comfortably furnished room on the walls of which were several photographs of the serenely bearded and robed Maharishi. We were joined by Dan Wasiecewski, an imposingly tall man, who greeted me warmly. Both men wore suits and ties. Boncheff is the Academy Director, and Wasiecewski is in charge of buildings and finance.

For three years before coming to Antrim, Boncheff was a member of the Philosophy faculty at Plymouth State College, and since 1970 he has taught TM in countries around the world, including India, Russia, and Estonia, as well as the United States. He completed a Ph.D. at Maharishi European Research University in Switzerland where he wrote a dissertation on the ancient Hindu system of logic, Nyaya.

Boncheff said that when the Academy opens in the fall of 2008 he hopes to have between one and two hundred male students enrolled in grades 9 through 12, living in several newly constructed dormitories. Wasiecewski explained that all the dormitories will adhere to Vedic Architecture, the

building principles of which, to quote their website: “are in harmony with Natural Law — these principles are in line with Nature’s own timeless laws of structuring or building which maintain every particle in creation in perfect harmony with everything else. Thus, Maharishi Sthapatya Veda design is the world’s most ancient and complete system of architecture and planning. It takes into account the influences of sun, moon, stars and planets with reference to north and south poles and the equator. Homes, offices and communities designed and built according to Maharishi Sthapatya Veda design therefore connect individual life with Cosmic Life, individual intelligence with Cosmic Intelligence, optimizing both the close and distant positive environmental influences on the individual.” All this is a little beyond me, but I do know that all their new buildings will face the eastern sunrise.

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Dr. John Boncheff in front of Scarborough Hall.

IKE: AN AMERICAN HERO

By Michael Korda
Harper Collins 723 pp., \$34.95

Dick Winslow

This is a wonderful biography of Dwight David Eisenhower (1890-1969) who was known as “Ike” when he was a feisty little kid in Abilene, Kansas, when he commanded the immense allied forces in Europe in World War II, when he headed the NATO forces in Europe after the war, when he was president of Columbia University, and when he was in the White House as President of the United States. People liked him. Lapel buttons reading I LIKE IKE, introduced during his presidential campaign in 1952, were worn all over the world.

In 1911, Ike went to West Point rather than to a civilian college or university simply because it was tuition-free and the family was poor. But when he did this, his mother wept, not because he was leaving home, but because she and Ike’s father were Mennonite pacifists. It was almost unthinkable that their son would go to an institution that taught war.

Ike had been a star athlete in Abilene High School. At West Point, he played football until, in a game with Tufts University, he badly injured a knee. Goodbye dreams of grid-iron glory! However, in his subsequent army career, he several times picked up extra cash (salaries for junior officers were then notoriously low) as a coach, first for a secondary school, later for teams of service men. One of these teams played against a team coached by Lou Little, later a famed coach at Columbia University. When, directly after WWII, Eisenhower had become president of Columbia University, he was able to persuade old friend Lou Little not to leave for a job at Yale.

World War II is just now much in the public consciousness, partly because of Ken Burns’s documentary “The War” on Public Television, partly because of recent books such as Mark Perry’s *Partners in Command: George Marshall and Dwight Eisenhower in War and Peace*, Stanley Weintraub’s *15 Stars - Eisenhower, MacArthur, Marshall; Three Generals Who Saved The American Century*, and Korda’s *Ike: An American Hero*.

Before discussing *Ike* in any detail, it is worth noting that Eisenhower’s name is often coupled with that of George Marshall. Each was a man of deep conscience and sense of fairness, and both occupied positions of enormous power. Marshall was wartime army chief-of-staff and organizer of victory over Germany, then after the war, secretary of state under President Truman and promoter of the incredibly far-sighted Marshall Plan which used American wealth to help war-ravaged western Europe get back on its feet. Eisenhower was supreme commander of the Allied forces in their victory over Hitler, followed by his breathing the spark of life into post-war NATO, and his presidency of the United States. Quite possibly, the far-sightedness behind the extraordinar-

ily generous post-war G.I. Bill of Rights, which paid tuition and living expenses for WWII veterans to attend school or college or a university for graduate work, relates to the Marshall/Eisenhower spirit, vision, and planning ability. I hope so. At any rate, by contrast, we now read with sinking hearts about Iraq war veterans being found, by the hundreds, homeless on our city streets.

The early pages of *Ike* spell out ways in which Eisenhower’s huge post-war popularity took a nosedive. There were criticisms of his wartime performance by British, American, Russian, even German generals in their memoirs; suggestions that he should have allowed Patton to take Berlin; thoughts that he was a “fuddy-duddy” president, and so forth. In the face of such down-grading, Michael Korda, along with mentioning that Ike never struck back at his critics either vocally or in print, observes: “Perhaps the one thing that could have guaranteed a victory for Germany after 1942 would have been the appointment of the wrong commander for the Allied forces in Europe.” The British had recognized that because American troops outnumbered their own “the supreme command would have to go to an American ... Had the choice fallen on, say, MacArthur, who was arrogant, vain and instinctively anti-British—or on someone like Patton who was all those things and worse—the alliance might never had a chance of succeeding. That the choice fell on Eisenhower was perhaps the Allies’ most singular piece of good fortune in World War II.”

This huge book documents Ike’s virtues as a person and as commander of a coalition, “his fairness, his energy, his patience, his common sense, and above all his matchless ability to deal with even the most difficult prima donnas—Montgomery, say, or the rival French generals DeGaulle and Giraud; or Winston Churchill; or Franklyn Roosevelt.” Eisenhower’s failures are openly admitted, but they take their place alongside enormous strengths and successes.

Ike can be borrowed from Tuttle Library as can two other important Eisenhower works: his *Crusade in Europe*, a personal account of the war (and a run-away best seller when it was published in 1946); and his *At Ease, stories I tell to friends*, which is revealing and delightful.

Here are my half dozen vignettes reflecting Michael Korda’s *Ike*:

To Wage Peace

And then, in 1950, President Truman asked Ike to make a whirlwind tour Of Europe to galvanize the fledgling NATO as a bulwark against Russia. He returned to Washington as though A Head of State – met at the airport by The President, cabinet members, an Array of generals, ambassadors And journalists – then driven to Blair House

—continued on next page

In the presidential limousine.
Ike subsequently commanded NATO's
Army to wage, as he said, peace. We tend
To forget how scary was the threat posed
By the Soviet Union at that time
And how well Ike steered the U.S. response.

I Hope To God I Know What I'm Doing

The cross channel invasion of Europe
With those terrifying landings on French
Beaches – Utah and Omaha – where men
Could be sitting ducks for German machine
Guns was immensely complicated by
Size and variety of forces – ground,
Sea and air – and weather. Incredible
Feats of planning for all contingencies.
So, D Day, June 6, 1944,
Ike spoke one-on-one with paratroopers:
Then, as he watched C 47s, one
After another, roll down a runway
To take off, tears streamed down his face. He said,
“I hope to God I know what I'm doing.”

I Like Ike

Dwight and his four brothers in Abilene,
Kansas where they grew up, all had the same
Nickname, Ike — Big Ike, Middle Ike, Little
Ike, et cetera. The name stuck with Dwight
His whole life — as a five-star general,
As President in the White House. It was
Known worldwide. In Italy, a schoolboy
(This was 1957) tried his
English on me. “Ee Leekay Eekay!” he
Proclaimed with a great big smile. What he had
Said was phonetic Italian for “I
Like Ike!”

He Will God-Damned Well Swim Home

The aim was victory. Everything else
Had to be ruthlessly suppressed – friendships
Such as his own with General Patton,
National feelings and inter service
Rivalries. When Ike heard that one of his
Own generals had sworn at a British
Counterpart, he asked the Brit about it.
The British general said, “He only
Called me a son-of-a-bitch, sir.” But Ike
Knew better. “He called you a British son-
Of-a-bitch,” said Ike, red-faced with anger.
“I will make him god-damned well swim home!” And
The rash American general was
Reduced in rank to Lieutenant Colonel
And sent back to the U.S. in disgrace.

I Had Never Realized He Was As Big A Man

British generals in their memoirs found
Much fault with Ike's leadership of Allied
Forces. But all agreed that he could make
A great speech, such as the one in London
After the war acknowledging British
Honors given to him. The London *Times*
Wrote of Ike's “moving eloquence .. native
To the words of a sincere and modest
Man. No man of our time will have made a
Nobler contribution than this great
American.” And British General
Alanbrooke noted in his diary,
“Ike made a wonderful speech. I had never
Realized that he was as big a man
Until his performance today.”

Truck Convoy

In 1919 Ike, age twenty-nine,
(By the way, he later became the last
U.S. President born in the nineteenth
Century), still a low-ranking army
Officer and bored with desk work, jumped at
The opportunity to co-lead an
Experimental army truck convoy
Coast-to-coast. Roads, then maintained only at
The whim of states and towns, were often no
More than wagon trails. Some days the convoy
Made little headway due to getting stuck
In the mud or having motor trouble;
And the whole trip, Washington D.C. to
San Francisco took two months. Ike learned then
Much about roads and trucks and about the
Nation's towns and cities. More than thirty
Years later he as president was the
Driving force behind construction of our
Interstate Highway system, the largest
Public Works project in history and
The foundation of our country as we
Now know it.



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TRAINS OF YORE

Harlow Richardson

Early in the morning in the 1940s I'd waken to the whistles of the switching locomotives and the bumping of the freight cars rolling off the Hump, squealing through the speed controllers and coupling onto a new string of cars. These were the sounds from the NY NH & H Railroad's Hump. The yard was over four miles East, but the cold morning air carried the sounds as if they were a block or two away. Incoming freight cars from anywhere in the U.S rail system were brought to New Haven to be made up into trains aimed at New England destinations or brought in from all over New England to be made into outward bound trains. Each car would be identified by a list given to the Tower Operator and directed through a spreading delta of switches and rails.

The speed of the car was controlled by braking systems based on its weight, and finally it would thump onto the coupler of the new train. The thumps echoed over the city and into my bedroom window.

This was the prelude to The Symphony of a Waking City. It would be embellished by street noises from trolleys on the Edgewood line and the rattling of glass milk bottles in the milkman's wire carrier and the clip-clop of the horse's hooves as the horse pulled the wagon farther down the street. At 7:00am a bold prolonged whistle would sound from the Ames Hardware plant in Westville.

What were these freight cars carrying? Coal, Chemicals, Steel, Grain, and miscellaneous cargoes: raw materials for industrial New England, even fresh vegetables and fruit in reefers packed with ice. And what was coming out of New England for distribution? This is where the network of feeder lines throughout New Hampshire, Vermont, and Massachusetts came into play.

The Boston and Maine Railroad and a host of feeder lines would bring in the products of factories, fisheries, and farms. Fine Monadnock papers from Bennington, quality Goodell cutlery and appleparers from Antrim, knitted socks

from the Contoocook Mills of Hillsboro, gunpowder from Bennington's Powder Mill, and fabrics from the mighty mills of Manchester or Lowell. These lines were the lifeblood of industry.

Just as readily as our industrial products moved, folks in Antrim, Bennington, and Hillsboro could climb aboard to ride in a train to Concord, Nashua, or Manchester, and connect to faraway Boston and the rest of the forty-eight states.

Wagons and coaches waited at the depot to welcome the incoming passengers, freight, and mail. The depot was the hub of activity of each village or town. What was happening up and down the line? We didn't have TV or the internet. The coal stove in the depot was a great place to discuss the news as it was brought in by passengers, crew, the telegraph, and the mail. Relatives hugged their loved ones as they arrived, or left.

The Western Union operator could telegraph messages throughout the United States and arrange money transfers or Letters of Credit. Wagons and coaches awaited goods or passengers. Young people were carried off to colleges, jobs in the cities, or off to war. The Western Union man would be the first to know who would not return.

As one drives today through Antrim or its neighboring towns, one can see the dim remains of trestles, roadbeds, and bridge pilings that supported the system. See the trestle, or as the road sign declares "tressel," that led to the paper mill, or the tracks and bridge at Powder Mill Pond. Dare we suppose that gunpowder might have been carried from the Powder Mill?

One of the interesting sites nearby is the Elmwood Junction just south of Bennington off Route 202. Take South Elmwood road and turn immediately left over a small bridge then immediately right. About a hundred yards further is a sign erected by the Hancock Preservation Society listing many of the buildings or structures that were once there. Park and walk the rails to the big wye and the bridge over the Contoocook at the head of Powder Mill Pond. On a recent walk there I was even greeted by a little bear who had been guarding my

car for me. Or was it after the half of a sandwich on the front seat?

Many stretches of these old roadbeds have been improved and maintained as part of the network of Rails to Trails. More have been saved by local organizations. Going north from Bennington through Antrim, Deering, Hillsboro, and Henniker, are numerous cleared and improved sections, or just-as-is pieces with rails still in place. As you hike or bike on these, keep your eyes open for depot sites. There is a house in West Deering showing structural details that identify it as a depot. Hancock, Bennington, and Henniker have obvious depots in good condition.

Over the past few months I've talked with several people who shared tales of their first-hand or second-hand experiences of the railroad nearby. Many of us have put pennies on the tracks to see them flattened by the mighty wheels of the locomotives. One more daring friend told how he and his buddies would climb into the rafters of the Hillsboro covered bridge and hang there as the train passed under them huffing steam and smoke. A Conval student told me that her grandfather would go down to the depot in West Deering and hitch a ride to school in the caboose. If he woke and heard the whistle he knew it was too late and he would have to walk the three miles.

Well, these experiences are gone now, as are the trains in this area. The highways and the interstate system have taken over the moving of people and freight. Cellphones, texting, and e-mail have put us in direct communication with each other, and most industries have moved out of our towns. Cars and planes whisk us from place to place.

We no longer hear the familiar long-long-short-long wail of a train approaching a grade crossing. No longer do we hear the little toot of an engine as it leaves the depot. The memories of these are only sustained now by the proud prolonged whistle that sounds the epilogue of an industrial era at seven in the morning and five in the evening from Monadnock Paper Mills. Thank you for the memories. ❄️

CAROLS

Virginia Dickinson

The dark, cold days of winter are upon us. We all look towards the end of December with anticipation for Christmas, Chanukah, Kwanza, Solstice—all celebrations that, each in its own way, herald the turn from darkness and despair to hope and renewed life.

Some years seem to have an overload of darkness. This past year has been one of those in my family, with illness and death stalking the Dickinson-Wolsiefer households from January to the present. This is the time of year when life reaffirming stories are sometimes the only thing that can help us get through these family holidays. I know that we are not the only family in Antrim that has had a difficult year, so I am going to share with you a story from my childhood that always lifts my spirits when Christmas rolls around.

Christmas was a big deal in our family. Both my mother, Martha, and my father, Chuck, were artists. They created beautiful silk-screened Christmas cards that were a family tradition started before my sisters and I were born. One of the best parts of Christmas when I was a child was the community carol sing. The whole community would congregate, candles and song sheets in hand, with a brass band made up of our neighborhood talent, under a huge lighted pine tree on the banks of our neighborhood pond. I have great memories of the sings which we still attend, but one particular year of the carol sing remains to me a symbol of what Christmas is all about.

In our family the summer and fall of 1970 were marked by my mother Martha's headaches—blinding, flashing, horrible headaches—that would send her to her darkened bedroom for the whole day. As a twelve-year-old, busy with camp and playing with my friends, I was not really aware of what was going on, but I knew the life of our family had changed.

Late one evening in October my mother had a seizure that sent her to the hospital. Biopsies pointed to lung cancer that had spread to her brain. Two days before Thanksgiving, my sisters Elizabeth, Sarah, Amanda, and I stood with our father on the sidewalk outside Columbia Presbyterian Hospital in Manhattan waving to our Mom as she sat by her window on the evening of her surgery. She was able to return home two weeks before Christmas. Although the children were not told at that time, the prognosis was grim.

I have to tell you a little bit about my Mom. My mother was not only creative, she was also slightly eccentric. One of her favorite things to do in the fall was to walk down to the pond after dark, bag of bulbs and trowel in hand, to plant daffodils in unlikely and tucked away places for the neighborhood to enjoy when they bloomed in the spring. One year a robin nested two feet off the ground in our Wysteria bush making herself and her chicks easy pickins for the neighborhood cats. My mother would sit in her lawn chair during the day and late into the evening keeping watch on this little family and would then set up the sprinkler under the nest when she went to bed to ward off any lurking kitties. She did

this every day until the chicks fledged and flew away. Because of these acts, and many other slightly off-beat events, she came to be affectionately known as the “crazy lady on Barclay Road.” My mother loved her neighborhood and her friends and community and was highly involved in our school, working as an assistant in the art room and also volunteering with the PTA and Girl Scouts.

Christmas eve and the carol sing were upon us, and even though none of us felt much like joining in, my father took the four of us girls in hand and headed down to the pond for the sing. My mother stayed at home with my Grandmother and Aunt who had just arrived from Detroit to stay and help my father through my mother's illness. I remember being surrounded by friends and neighbors and holding my father and sister's hands tightly and defiantly singing as loudly as I could the carols that we loved.

When the last notes of the final carol “Silent Night, Holy Night” ended, we extinguished our candles, turned in our song sheets, and started the walk up the hill back to our house. About halfway up the hill there we heard a lot of commotion behind us. My father and my sisters and I turned to see what the noise was all about. Heading up the hill en masse candles and song sheets in hand were the friends and extended community that my mother loved so much. By the time we got home and in our yard there was a large crowd of people filling our front yard and street in front of our house.

Someone must have alerted my Grandmother that this was going to happen because when I looked at the front door of our house there was my mother sitting in a chair with my Grandmother and aunt Ginny beside her. The next half hour was filled with all the carols my Mom loved so much: “Hark the Harold Angels Sing,” “We Three Kings,” “Oh come, Oh Come Emmanuel,” “Jingle Bells,” and “Oh little town of Bethlehem” which in particular seemed to resonate on a deeper level that night.

We all sang and cried and held hands and knew that no matter what the new year would bring, we would be loved and cared for and that our community of friends and acquaintances would help us through what lay ahead.

My mother died April 6, 1971, three days after my twin sister Sarah's and my thirteenth birthday, just when the bulbs that my mother planted started to bloom.

I did not think at the time that I would ever be happy again, but life is funny sometimes. Two years after my mother's death, my father remarried. He met Leslie in the church choir. A year after they were married, they added another sister, Karen, to our family. Karen is now an adult with two wonderful children. Though I often yearn for my mother, I cannot imagine my life without Leslie or Karen and her family.

So Christmas comes around again and my sisters and I will walk down to the pond and sing carols with old friends and new neighbors and count our joys and sing away our sorrows. Life is wonderful and full of surprises. May your life be blessed with the love of family and community.

Merry Christmas!



A LOOK BACK AND A NEW FACE

By Mary Allen, ConVal School Board

As we head into the season for “Auld Lang Syne,” let’s look back and revisit an old issue and look forward in welcoming a new member of the ConVal community.

VACATION, VACATION

The June *Limrik* posed a question to readers about the possibility of changing the ConVal school vacation schedule. What was being weighed was combining the two mid-year vacations weeks—one in February and the other in April—into a single vacation week in March.

Two readers responded via e-mail, and both thought the district ought to leave things alone. Here’s a portion of what they said:

Ginny McLay, the mother of a first grader and a teacher at Hillsboro-Deering Elementary School, wrote: “As a teacher, I don’t think changing to one vacation is a good idea. Children and teachers, alike, need those breaks. I know the students get very grouchy and impatient with each other just before a vacation. I used to teach in Connecticut and our neighboring towns tried the switch to a March vacation ... and the next year went back to the two!”

Cathi Valeriani, a summer resident of Gregg Lake, made several points: “I am a paraprofessional in an elementary school on Cape Cod ... dropping the February and April vacations and substituting with one week in March seems like a great idea until you do it. We found in our district that without the February break away from each other, all the February illnesses just kept going around the school. So many children and staff were out of school and sick for weeks till we got away from each other in March and broke the germ cycle. A lot of learning time was lost due to illness ... and even with the advanced notice, a lot of families still took the children out of school for a February week or April week, in addition to the March week, because they wanted vacation time with others that were still on the February-April breaks.”

Thanks Ginny and Cathi for your responses. At the district level, the vacation issue has been put on the “back burner” for the time being. No action is planned this year, but discussions with the Mascenic and Jaffrey-Rindge district are continuing since both would be affected by any schedule change at the Applied Technology Center. Students from all three districts take courses through the ATC. We’ll keep you posted.

HE’S NOT THAT DON JOHNSON

Once again the welcome mat is out at the *Limrik*. Assistant Superintendent Donald A. Johnson started his tenure this summer, joining Superintendent Richard Bergeron in the central office.

Don has been profiled by the daily and weekly press, both when he was a finalist for the superintendent’s job, and after he joined ConVal as assistant superintendent. But since the *Limrik* is a quarterly, we play by our own rules.

So, here’s a short background sketch of Don, followed by five in-depth, penetrating and Pulitzer-worthy questions that you might expect from such an august publication.

Most recently, Don was director of special services for the Kittery (Maine) School Department, and he served for three years as superintendent in Littleton. He holds a master’s degree in business administration from Plymouth State University, a master’s in counseling psychology from Lesley University, and a bachelor’s in special education and elementary education from Boston University.

After commuting from the North Country most of the summer, Don and his family moved to Peterborough in late October. He says he’s “loving my 7-minute commute but ... will miss the mountain roads in the winter. Yeah, I’m one of those fools who loves winter driving challenges!”

But, the *Limrik* was sure he preferred Florida ...

Question: So how was your time on “Miami Vice?” You are *that* Don Johnson, aren’t you? If not, do you ever get mistaken for that guy?

Answer: Okay, honestly, I’m not *that* Don Johnson, but I really preferred “Nash Bridges” as a better show ... why doesn’t anyone ask me if I’m the “Nash Bridges” guy?

Question: Are you a Red Sox fan? If not, be honest but start packing your bags. If so, did you wear anything special (Sox cap, sweatshirt, jammies?) while watching the series?

Answer: Yes, I’m a Red Sox fan from way back ... grew up in Lexington, Mass., and went to many games as a kid. I missed most of this year’s games, including the World Series, as I didn’t have access to a TV (and I don’t own or wear any Sox items).

Question: You’re new to the Monadnock Region, but not to New Hampshire. What’s one thing that you’ve noticed and liked about our corner of the state? Please feel free to flatter us.

Answer: Although I’m new to the area, I’m quite familiar with it. My parents have lived in this area most of my adult years, and I climbed Mount Monadnock every year from when I was 3 until about 30. I love that mountain.

Question: What was your favorite Halloween costume when you were a kid?

Answer: Pirate.

Question: Do you own an iPod? What’s at the top of your playlist? No, iPod? That’s okay ... but what kind of music do you like?

Answer: No iPod, but my favorite music is a tie between jazz and Scottish.

Welcome, Don. We’re happy to have a Sox-loving, mountain-climbing pirate in our midst who likes jazz and Scottish music ... but we were hoping for an autograph from the “Miami Vice” guy. ❄

A LOT OF HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS

THE TUTTLE LIBRARY

Connie Kirwin, Trustee

The library addition is open for business and it really takes a visit to appreciate how beautiful it is. The Trustees want you to know that we couldn't have done it without a lot of help from our friends. From \$30 to \$3,000+, we have received donations that have allowed us to construct a building that is both beautiful and functional and compliments the original 100 year old library

Have you noticed the Palladian window that matches the ones in the original Library building? It was purchased in memory of Henry B. and Clara E. Pratt, with donations from four generations of Pratt family members. Clara E. Pratt was Librarian from the late 1950s to the mid 1960s.

Have you seen the beautiful circulation desk handcrafted by David DuBois? This was made possible by a donation from former trustee Ron Haggett and his wife Ann.

Have you admired the architectural detail—both inside and out? All crafted with thanks to John Kendall's knowledge, experience and appreciation of historic restoration and his crew of artisan workers.

Have you admired the interior decorating? The paint was donated by Edmunds Hardware and the Benjamin Moore Corporation. Dottie Durgin sewed the window seat cushions in the Children's room with fabric donated by Nancy Benda and Margaret Warner. Do your children like the new furniture in their area? All of the new furniture, shelving, book carts, and accessories were purchased with donations from our supportive friends.

When the original building is refurbished and ready this spring we will be purchasing furniture for the reading and reference rooms and the young adult area. Terry Cutter of Cutter Flooring & Furnishings has donated four end tables and two coffee tables for the reading room. He has spent hours giving us his expert advice on window treatments which will be installed in both buildings.

Our thanks to all—current residents, summer residents, former residents and our many friends—for their generous donations: Arthur and Ann Allison, Michele Apkarian, Elizabeth Avery, Nancy Benda (trustee), Christopher Brinkley, Colin Brinkley, Yvette Brinkley, Terry Cutter, the Demarest family, Sharon Dowling (former trustee), Dottie Durgin, Edmunds Hardware, Phyllis Fries, Gregg Lake Association, Ron Haggett (former trustee) and Ann Haggett, Peter Jaquith, Janis King (trustee), Connie Kirwin (trustee), Michael Lemons, Donald and Amy Maughan, the family of Dick Mayer in his memory, the family of Isabel Nichols in her memory, Marion Noble, Ben Pratt, Geraldine Rabideau, the Richard Pratt family, Jeremy and Steph Warner, Margaret Warner (trustee), and Daniel and Quida Young.

A special thanks to the citizens of Antrim for their vote for the construction bond. ❄️



ANTRIM RESIDENTS SERVING ABROAD

Pam Caswell

In October I received this email from Josh Chandler in Iraq. The package he mentions came from a volunteer group in Jaffrey that sends gifts to service personnel overseas.

“Hi. My name is Josh Chandler, Paul's son. He told me that you were asking about where I was going to be spending Thanksgiving. I will still be somewhere in Baghdad. I am going to be here for another couple of months. All together it will be 15 months. It seems like so much longer.

As far as a package goes, please do not send one. Thank you for the thought. It is just I have so much stuff I am trying to get rid of right now, I do not need anymore. I think that the group you work with already sent me one a few months ago. Thank you, it was really nice. It is always nice to get stuff in the mail. Well I thought that I would say thank you for caring and remembering us over here. Thank you for the prayers. Tell everyone that we thank you, all of you for everything you do to make it that much easier on us. Happy Holiday.”

Josh



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Boncheff emphasized the Academy's benefits to the town of Antrim, including one hundred new staff and faculty jobs, sports and recreation facilities, an increased tax base, and local spending by families and other visitors. Here is the way the Academy website describes the new school:

**HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MAHARISHI ACADEMY
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Stress-free, supportive learning environment—students learn the Transcendental Meditation® program.

Cutting-edge knowledge in every field of learning with state-of-the-art electronic displays.

Consciousness-BasedSM education promotes optimal learning and balanced brain development where no student will fail.

Total Knowledge curriculum will be unsurpassed—all disciplines are connected back to the student to make learning easy and meaningful.

Beautiful rural wooded 400-acre new campus in New Hampshire.

Boarding School for Boys grades 9-12.

Campus will be virtually smoke, alcohol, bullying, drug-free.

Organic, vegetarian meals with emphasis on fresh foods.

Majestic new campus with healthy buildings and "green campus," built in accordance with ancient Vedic building principles.

I asked Dr. Boncheff whether TM has been introduced in other US schools, and he mentioned the kindergarten through twelfth grade Maharishi School of the Age of Enlightenment and the Maharishi University of Management, both accredited in Fairfield, Iowa. Closer to Antrim, an inner-city public school in Hartford Connecticut, has recently included TM for its students. Curious, I phoned Hartford and spoke with its Principal Paul Stringer who told me that he had investigated TM and "liked what I saw for myself, my staff, and our students." He explained that his students were threatened with gang violence and other inner city problems, and in the year TM has been taught at the school 98% of the students have been very receptive. He said he is "beginning to see interesting results" as the students are experiencing less stress and are more peaceful and quiet. In a second phone call, to the Hartford Superintendent of Schools Office, I spoke with Dr. June Bernabucci, Senior Director of Unified Arts, who told me the TM program is producing "stress reduction in a frenetic atmosphere where kids can gain some control over the terrible stress in their lives." In a third call, I spoke with Dr. Robert Colbert, a Psychology professor at the University of Connecticut, who is conducting a study of the TM program. Dr. Colbert reported that when a group of students who had

participated in the TM program were compared with a group who had not participated, the TM students showed improvement in several academic subjects, especially math. Knowing the benefits of meditation in my own academic life, I was not surprised that meditation is effective in school settings.

In early November I returned to the North Branch campus with members of Antrim town government, including Town Administrator Bill Prokop, Selectmen Ben Pratt and Mike Genest, Planning Board member Bob Edwards, and Grant Administrator Diane Chauncey. We had been invited to meet the Academy administration and members of the Board of Directors, and to participate in an information session about the Academy's plans for its curriculum, new buildings, students and faculty recruitment, financial arrangements, and educational theory. We were favorably impressed with the Board members, which included businessmen and educators from New England, New York, and the Midwest, as well as with Dr. Boncheff's thorough presentation and responses to our questions.

It appears that the Maharishi Academy may offer considerable benefits to its students and the Town of Antrim. It is, however, a large undertaking. When I voiced some skepticism about the scope and timing of their plans to Dr. Boncheff, he acknowledged the ambitiousness of the project but emphasized that other TM education programs had proved very successful, even without the benefit of so beautiful a four hundred acre campus. He said that there are over two million TM meditators in the US, and many more around the world, most of whom are sufficiently convinced of TM's efficacy that they might be eager to have their secondary school children participate in the Academy. And he asserted that while the building program, enrolling students, and recruiting faculty present enormous challenges, because of their excellent staff, highly qualified and committed Board, and support from the international TM organization, they will succeed.

After meeting the staff and board members, and hearing Dr. Boncheff's presentation, I drove away hoping for their success. As I approached the bridge over the North Branch River, two graceful fawns startled into my headlights. ❄

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WILD GAME BON APPETITE

Peter Gagne

The smell of apple smoke rolled down the length of the porch, filling the air with the flavor and beauty of fall. As the sun lay across the land, the brilliant tree colors rang out in every direction, and in the fields clover shed its white coating. It was mid October, and the smoker, filled with venison, a goose or two, and some cheese, made me think of the joys of gathering edible plants and wildlife around our way, and then cooking and eating everything. Most folks never get the chance to try, let alone enjoy, the varieties of game and excellent flavors that the wild side of eating offers. Wild game is not found on the shelves of stores, so most people are limited to occasional experimentation. The good taste of wild game far exceeds most grocery store fare, and so game shoppers head to the woods at the first leaf color-change and a hint of coolness.

Antrim's forests, fields, streams, lakes, and even dead stumps, offer a variety of food that outnumbers the local market. Nature's meat department provides moose, deer, bear, beaver, porcupine, squirrel, geese, ducks, partridge, pheasant, quail, woodcock, doves, raccoon, and turkeys. In the fish department you can find trout, bass, perch, turtles, salmon, and catfish. Fall rains bring many varieties of great-eating mushrooms. Our area is a fall festival of natural treats!

It is also the home of some of the finest wild-game cooks to set foot on the soil. The king of game cooking is our own Steve Schacht. I have been friends with Steve since 1980, and in the twenty-seven years I have known this man, he has taught me and many others how to cook every animal that walks, swims, and flies. He should write a book. We have staged all night clambakes, driving to and from the coast to collect seaweed, digging a huge pit loaded with a two hundred pound pig, lobsters, steamers, and corn, and then sitting all night as everything steamed its way to perfection. Steven Schacht can make any wild-game taste delicious! He is the Julia Child of game cooking. (Although he is not as tall, they do look a bit alike.)

Down the road some, most folks know Tim Attridge and Steve Tatro as the hardworking men who keep the Verney Farm in top shape. They also find time to do some butchering and create fine varieties of the venison sausage they have perfected over years of taste testing. Steve and his wife Karen have many recipes for cooking deer, and my brother Keith Gagne has taken the art of marinades to the height of perfection. Every Christmas a hindquarter of venison is hidden away in a bucket full of apple cider, orange juice, fresh garlic from the garden, onions, shaved ginger, and a thing or two he keeps to himself. When it emerges and finds its way to the oven, I tell ya folks, it is consumed to the bone, often by people who have never tasted venison. Gordon Webber loves to cook, and there were times when we lived and worked in Alaska together that he would take a two-mile hike to a local stream

choking with salmon, catch a nice bunch, and return to smoke them away. He is well traveled in the world of cooking Alaskan game, and he has brought his experience back home. We both wish there was a good run of red salmon here.

Travel a little across the town line and you find the former mayor of Bennington, James Cleary, planning a game dinner, or gathering out on the ice, to cook anything up, from moose to deer chili to lake trout. James has formed many game suppers where hundreds have gathered to enjoy the feast. He tends to really spice up the game so that it has a southern flair to it, often a remedy for breathing problems.

Years ago we lost another great chef in the passing of Bobby Handy. Bobby had cookers, smokers, tents, and the love of a great gathering. I have been blessed in the past to have Bobby show up at one of my big outdoor events and take wild turkeys, pig, moose and venison and turn them on a spit till the crowd gathered like starving vultures. His son-in-law, Ryan Kulbacki, has taken on the same talents. Well versed in hunting, butchering and cooking, Ryan and Jimmy Cleary often hook up to throw a great game supper.

I live on the outskirts of Antrim where I have a butcher's barn, a smoker, a sap house, and a love of cooking. I am thankful for meeting folks like Steve and Jimmy and Gordon and Bobby and Ryan, and the many other fine wild-game chefs I have spent time with from Alaska, the Midwest, down south, and as far away as New Zealand. I enjoy smoking fish and game for my friends and customers, and I love the gathering in the barn come hunting season. As folks arrive to leave their game, we chat excitably about the harvest. We swap recipes, exchange game, and wish our time was longer together. In a sense I am selfish regarding the fact that a greater part of the population does not have an interest in wild game. Its disinterest allows me and my fellow wild game lovers to enjoy the outdoors without excess pressure.

The smoker just sent another plume of rich flavored air past me as I write this. Time to go pull out the smoked cheddar, some goose breast, and a loin of venison, and admire them before I and a few good friends chase them down with a nice wine or some sour mash bourbon. Hats off to all of those who will do the same this hunting season. ❄

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especially on a campaign, might wait three or four months for the paymaster to arrive. Needless to say, their families needed some help. The help came from family members, neighbors, friends, and the Town.

1862

\$800 was voted at town meeting to assist the families of volunteers. A Special Town Meeting was held on August 8th at which the following actions were voted: \$100 to each volunteer who enlisted between July 2-Sept 2, an extra \$25 per volunteer if quota were met, \$3000 to carry above into effect. On September 15, another Special Town Meeting was held with following results: \$300 to assist families of Volunteers, \$100 per volunteer who enlisted for nine months, an extra \$25 per volunteer if quota were met, \$2000 to carry above into effect. The town also voted to hire a recruiting agent at a 5% commission to help procure bounties.

1862

This was the year when everyone realized that the war was going to be long and costly. In February, the battle of Shiloh resulted in around 12,000 Union casualties. In May and June, McClellan's Peninsular Campaign was fought in Virginia with about 18,000 casualties. President Lincoln issued a call for 300,000 men in July. Enlistments started to lag. In desperation another call for 75,000 men was made in late August. This explains the reason for the two Special Town Meetings. Can you imagine adjourning a town meeting today to convince people to enlist? In the U.S. Congress, a debate ensued about having a draft, and a draft was passed. The problem with the military draft that passed was that draftees were allowed to "buy" substitutes to fill their places in the quota. Here is how the system worked: the President issued a call for troops, each state received a quota it had to meet, in turn each town received a quota, and if the town did not voluntarily meet the quota, the draft kicked in and men were enlisted involuntarily. Towns attempted to recruit or purchase volunteers to fill their quotas so no one would be drafted. Things were getting serious.

1863

At the annual March meeting, \$1000 was voted to assist families of the Volunteers. In August at a Special Town Meeting, the following actions were voted: to adopt an act providing for the enrollment of the State Militia, to adopt the Draft, \$300 for each draftee or his substitute, \$4000 to carry above into effect, and another \$1000 to assist families of Volunteers. In October, another Special Town Meeting voted an additional \$7500 for bounties and voted to give Selectmen discretion in spending the money. In December a Special Town Meeting voted an additional \$7500 to continue hiring substitutes for present and future quotas.

What all these votes show is that the price of substitutes was going up. No one in the North was enlisting voluntarily.

When the Selectmen went out to obtain money for this, they did not go to banks, they went to the people in town. Each yearly town report lists what the town owed individuals it borrowed from. The lists show the people who had money in town. Patriotism began in the wallet from 1863 to 1865.

1864

I won't bore you with dates for meetings in 1864, but there were six. The following actions were voted: \$1000 to aide the families of Volunteers, \$5000 to get veterans to reenlist, to accept the State Bounty, to pay up to \$1000 for each substitute, \$26000 to pay the bounties.

The cost of bounties continued to rise. In 1861 eight New Hampshire regiments enlisted for three years. 1864 was the volunteers' year to muster out or reenlist. They obviously knew what the going rate was for substitutes. To reenlist they wanted a piece of the pie. Towns raised the money to pay for their reenlistment and many did reenlist. The other distinction between 1863 and 1864 was the authority the Selectmen had in dealing with bounties. In 1863 they had limited authority in paying bounties. In 1864 they had unlimited authority which meant the price of bounties was rising so fast that the town could not keep up. Bounties reached \$1500 per recruit late in the war. Even the few Antrim residents who did enlist during this period probably received large bounties.

1865

There was one authorization for \$15000. Finally, the war ended.

Now I would like to show how the war impacted the financial condition of the Town of Antrim. In 1861 the town spent \$2600 for all town expenses, including roads, schools, and the poor-farm. Town debt was \$3300. In 1865 the town spent \$3300 on town expenses, and its debt increased to \$36000, and that was after it paid off \$16000 in debt along the way. So Antrim spent \$50,000 fighting the Civil War. In terms of today's dollars that would be an additional \$600-\$700,000 over a four year period. Eventually the national government reimbursed the states and towns for these expenses.

What this developed was a class of bounty jumpers who got paid for enlisting in one state, deserted from the army, and then went to another state and enlisted for money again. There are numerous stories from the army that as many as 50% of these guys never reached the army. They either deserted. or surrendered to the Confederates to avoid combat. Of the forty men Antrim paid to enlist, twenty-six deserted. On the positive side, not all of our men deserted. Antrim actually had four who were killed in the war. Needless to say, one of the lessons of this war was you do not let someone buy his way out of the draft. Briefly stated, the country had never had an army of this size. It had a lot to learn about organizing a fighting military. *

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Sept. 4th, 2007

Hi Erik,

I read your Civil War piece in the Antrim Limrik with interest. I assume that you have access to the Civil War diary of my great grandfather, Enoch Paige, which I gave to the Antrim Historical Society around 1982. It was there "discovered" by Arleen Paige White and transcribed in 1984, so there should be the original and the transcription available. It starts at Newport News in 1863 and he covers the march south to the siege of Vicksburg. If you have it, you know that he became quite ill and was eventually "sent home to die". Before he left for the war, he donated a flag to the town which was encased and on display upstairs in the library the last time I was there. However, he did not die, and returned home to Antrim to operate the cradle shop in Clinton. He is shown strolling on the cover of *Strolling Through Antrim*, and his home (where I grew up) is on the jacket of *Parades and Promenades*.) The Capt. Bertolette he speaks of often in his diary was important enough to him that he named his first son Bertolette, a name my grandfather had legally changed to Bert as soon as he was old enough. I have copied an old tintype of Enoch and his Captain in uniform together.

I think that you were the author of the article on the old stores in town but am not old enough to know about the fantastic "Snow houses" that they built in front of the Red and White every winter. They were large enough to accommodate about 6-8 kids at a time standing up and they put electric lights inside and Christmas lights on the holiday.

What do you know about the current status of Meeting House Hill? Does the town still own any of the old archeological sites?

Sincerely,
Connie Paige Kippax
220 Meadow Lane,
New Gloucester, ME 04260
lldog@prexar.com

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ANTRIM GETS ENERGY CONSCIOUS

Bradley Houseworth, Town Planner

It is an exciting time to be a planner in New Hampshire, and energy efficiency, global warming, and climate change are at the front of most planners' minds. Antrim is one of the 164 towns in New Hampshire to pass the NH Climate Change Resolution which asks the Selectmen "...to consider the appointment of a voluntary energy committee to recommend local steps to save energy and reduce emissions." Our passing this NH Climate Change Resolution demonstrates that we are optimistic as both individuals and a community that we have a role to play in reducing emissions, pollution, and costs.

Selectmen Chair Ben Pratt is leading the charge to establish the Antrim Energy Committee. Several individuals who had expressed interest in this energy committee met informally on November 8 to discuss the committee's vision statement, its statement of purpose, and potential initial steps. One of the programs available to us is the "New Hampshire Handbook on Energy Efficiency and Climate Change" sponsored by the Carbon Coalition. This handbook is a very useful in providing new committees with guidelines for starting the process of mitigating climate change locally by establishing an energy benchmark for all municipal buildings, operations, and activities. The Antrim Energy Committee will use this handbook as a guideline for initial steps. It is available at: www.carboncoalition.org/documents/Handbook.doc.

In addition to statewide efforts to assist local energy committees, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) has recently established the Community Energy Challenge to promote energy efficiency in New England Cities and Towns. This US EPA program is an excellent opportunity for communities "to identify simple and cost-effective measures that increase energy efficiency and renewable energy use while reducing air pollution and saving money." The Community Energy Challenge provides free training and technical assistance to every community joining the program that agrees to take the following steps: 1) make a commitment to improve energy efficiency; 2) assess (benchmark) the energy performance of all municipal buildings, schools, drinking water, and/or waste water treatment facilities within the community; 3) set a goal to reduce energy use by 10% or more; and 4) promote energy efficiency to citizens, companies, and organizations. The Antrim Energy Committee is in the process of taking up the US EPA's Community Energy Challenge, and much of the initial work may be concentrated on a 10% reduction in municipal energy use. For more information: www.epa.gov/ne/eco/energy/energy-challenge.html for more information.

The Antrim Energy Committee's next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, December 13, at 5:00 PM at the Antrim Town Hall. The meeting is open to the public and will be posted at the Town Hall and on the Town's website.



PRINCIPAL MUSINGS

By Debbie Lesure

Antrim Elementary School

When teachers sit down to plan lessons, the first thing they consider is what they want students to know and be able to do. Our staff spent a long time discussing this very topic today. When we ask children to read, what are the objectives from the state standards and the Conval curriculum that children must meet? What do we want the outcomes to be?

This type of planning is very much in the forefront of my thinking as I sit down to write. So, what do I want you to know and be able to do? I want you to know what a wonderful elementary school you have here in Antrim, and I want you to be able to speak about the strengths of our school.

You should know, however, that the word "excellent" was given by some of our students. While eating lunch with children, I listen and reflect. Children talk with me about learning many different kinds of things. Colonial occupations and Rocket Math were mentioned. *Love That Dog*, a recent book, made students visualize because there are no pictures (my words, not theirs). One student talked about field trips and learning about new places he'd never been before, such as Kendall Ledges in Temple. Another talked about teachers caring about children. The nurse is always there to help anyone who is hurt or sick. Several spoke about our McCabe Forest ventures, and children spoke about our assemblies

celebrating the good things that happen here at AES each week. State mandated NECAP testing was in process. Several of these students said they *liked* the test. They liked that it made them think.

Our 3rd and 4th grade students took the My Voice survey this fall, offered by the Quaglia Institute for Student Aspirations: "*Aspirations are the ability to dream about the future, while being inspired in the present to reach those dreams.*" (Dr. Russell J. Quaglia)

I want you to know that at AES we want students to *want* to be here. I want you to be able to say that our children overwhelmingly like coming to school every day. Our AES staff would like our students to have faith in themselves and to see themselves as good and curious learners. In reviewing some of the highlights of the My Voice survey, I am so impressed by what our students are reporting. They can take on new learning without fear of failure. Over 90% of our students care about their learning and want to do well in school. About that same number indicate that teachers think they are smart, that teachers help them learn from their mistakes, and that they work hard. Similarly, they understand that their teachers care about them. Our children reported that I know each of them by name. They have friends here and can talk to a teacher when they are worried or upset. What more could we want for our students?

 continued on next page

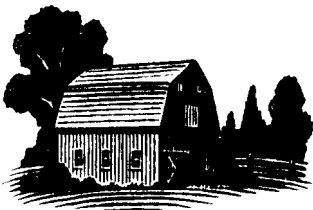
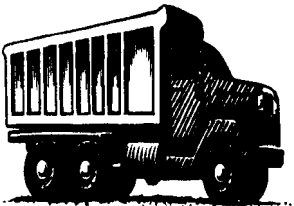
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When I asked children and teachers what they are proud of, the list built quickly. I've included only a few:

- Receiving eagles for Kindness, Respect, Honesty, and Co-operation
- Our Reverence of Place project in the McCabe Forest
- New Hampshire Dance Institute Residency
- Testing scores have increased dramatically
- 4th graders cooked and served for the Antrim Community Supper
- Coffee with the Principal is open to parents and community members
- 3rd graders "voted" in town elections
- Our handprint murals so each child leaves his or her mark on the school as a part of our school community.

So, what do I want you to know and be able to do? I want you to know what a wonderful elementary school you have here in Antrim. I want you to be able to speak about the strengths of our school. Have I met my objective?

SPECIAL EVENTS AND FIELD TRIPS

At Antrim Elementary School, we enjoy our parent support and many volunteers. Without this, our school could not be the wonderful place it is and children would have fewer opportunities for exploring the many wonderful places in New Hampshire.

First Friends visited Gould Hill Orchard to pick apples and visit their nature museum. They made apple snacks with their harvest.

Kindergartners visited Tenney Farm as part of their study of the fall season. They learned about the life cycle of pumpkins, had a wagon ride, and saw first hand how cider is made.

First graders went to McCabe Forest to learn about insects in the autumn.

First graders traveled to the Capital Theater in Concord. There they saw a play titled *Frog and Toad All Year*. This supports our students as they read books about Frog and Toad, written by Arnold Lobel.

First graders learned about the games and kitchens of our early New England settlers at the Peterborough Historical Society.

Second graders traveled by bus to the Colonial Theater in Keene. They watched a performance by the African Children's Choir, building upon their study of Africa.

Second graders went to Allyson's Farm in Walpole, NH. There they learned about many varieties of apples, how apples are picked and sorted, and they enjoyed the beautiful scenery.

Third graders followed their rock and mineral studies with a trip to Kendall Ledges in Temple, NH. There they hiked and viewed ledges of feldspar.

Fourth graders went to Sturbridge Village in MA. This follows up their study of colonial New Hampshire and colonial occupations.

The Audubon Society visited AES with presentations on *Scales and Skins*. This supports our students' learning about New Hampshire animals and habitats.

The whole school paraded through town on Halloween. The children love this opportunity to show-off their costumes!

During the week of December 3rd through 7th, we have a residency with the New Hampshire Dance Institute. This experience ends with a special performance on Friday, December 7 in the Great Brook School gym. ❄

THE TOWN SAFE

Bill Prokop

Just off the Town Administrator's Office in the Town Hall is the Town Safe, a repository of a plethora of interesting and valuable historical information. Ledgers of births and marriages, deaths records and burial permits, voting lists and minutes of Town meetings from the earliest days of Antrim's history are piled high upon the crowded shelves of the safe. Visitors from all over frequently stop by in search of genealogical information and page through these old volumes.

Over the course of the winter, we will be inventorying the contents of the safe and reorganizing its contents. We have applied for a grant to improve the way these records are stored and are waitlisted for funding. We will continue to look for other grants to assist us as we work to preserve these valuable records and to improve their accessibility. ❄

HAVE YOU SEEN
WHAT'S NEW THIS WEEK?

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HOME AND HARVEST HUGE SUCCESS

Rick Davis

Antrim's H&H celebration lived up to its motto, "Nothing like it!" More than a thousand people enjoyed the three-day event, and the town was hopping with activities as never before, including Friday night's impressive concert and Saturday's a flood of folks on Main Street enjoying a Soap Box Derby, craft and food booths, skateboarding races, kids' giant "Fun & Games," the Grapevine Auction, and the terrific 45-minute parade. Saturday night we shifted to Tenney Farm for a delicious BBQ, smooth music by the Bursitis Boys, and the beautiful fireworks by Atlas. Sunday wrapped it up with an entertaining softball game between the Fire and Police Departments, and the exciting ISSA skateboard finals.



A big thanks to everyone who helped make this year's H&H the best yet. The sponsors were: The Town of Antrim, Ocean Bank, Rick & Diane's Pizzeria, Tenney Farm, Antrim Lumber, Edmunds Hardware, T-Bird Mini-Mart, Perry, Weigand, & Gurwell Family Dental Care, Lake Sunapee Bank, Rymes Heating Oils, Great Brook Veterinary Clinic, Good Day Café, Hidden Hill Farm, Boxes On Board, Monadnock Paper Mill, Antrim Marketplace, Maplehurst Inn, Brailsford & Co., Inc., Antrim Friends of Recreation, Place In the Woods Trading Post, Chuck Van Horn, CPA, Cook's Garage, Burke Electric, Apple Shed Realty, The Grapevine, Steve Jones Construction, the Merrills and the Antrim Grange, Frame Works, Charles Levesques Innovative Natural Solutions, Brian Beihl and the Antrim Chamber of Commerce, the Lions Club, and the Antrim Teen Center.

My wonderful committee who volunteered many hours: Ted Brown, Brian Beihl, Ron Haggett, Alan Farhner, Monica Lemaire, Chris & Christa Salamy, Mark & Donna Lyon, Ericka Leonard, Jonas Taub, Lauren Kirkpatrick, and Kristin Readell.

We are already planning for an even bigger and better Home & Harvest in 2008, and our next meeting is scheduled for March 3rd, 2008, 7:00pm at Rick & Diane's Pizzeria. For more information, go to the town website antrimnh.org, or call Rick Davis at 464 9915. *

Skateboard Park continued from page 1

On Sunday, November 11, ten Antrim skaters along with Dave Kirkpatrick, Sarah Burt, and I made an excursion to The Hopkinton and Concord skateboard parks. The purpose of the trip was to gather information about skateboard equipment and skateboard parks in general. The two parks are very different, with the materials used: concrete, or metal and wood, and the various types of equipment each has. The skaters had a great time, and it resulted in some very productive discussions which will help us make our decisions about choices of ramps, pipes, grind rails etc., and, also, whether to buy or build. It seems that building is the most economical way to go but requires local volunteers and strict adherence to the highest skateboard equipment standards for purposes of safety, liability, and maintenance. The group decided that future trips to 'study' more parks, and, just for the pleasure of it, were a definite possibility. I am moved to com-


ment here that the Antrim Town Bus is a wonderful thing, and we Antrim citizens very fortunate to have it.

One truth we are learning is that developing a skateboard park is a process. In Antrim we're working through some problems and finding solutions one step at a time. We aren't the first town to go through this, and we have the advantage of learning from others' good and bad experiences. There are some real success stories out there, and we hope to emulate those. The most important thing to keep in mind is, we must not allow ourselves to become reactive to the problems we face in the park. I am confident we can find good solutions which will resolve the negative elements while maintaining the great qualities this resource provides for our children and all of us. It is often cooperative problem solving that can bring a community together, and I believe that the people of Antrim will come together to make this work for everyone. Thank you for your support, and we welcome your help and suggestions. *

T-BIRD


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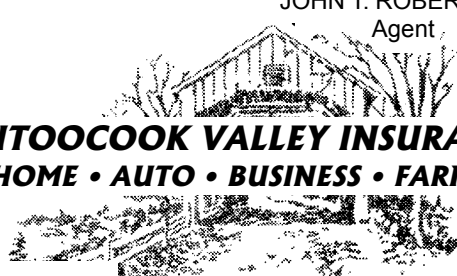


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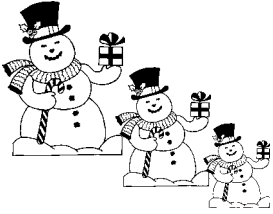
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CALENDAR

DECEMBER



- 1 **Patron Appreciation Day** • 10:00 AM–4:00 PM • Tuttle Library
- 1 **Hanging of the Greens** • Presbyterian Church
- 2 **Hanging of the Chrismons** during service • Presbyterian Church
- 2 **Tree Lighting** • 4 PM • Memorial Park
- 7 **Community Bus trip to Nashua shopping** • leaves 12:15 PM
- 9 **Congregational Meeting** after service with Pot Luck lunch • Presbyterian Church
- 10 **Second Mondays** session “**Prevention Starts Early**” • 6:30 PM • The Grapevine
- 13 **Antrim Energy Committee** meeting • 5 PM • Town Hall
- 13 **Gregg Lake Beach Improvements** meeting • 6:30 PM • Recreation Office
- 14 **After School Jump Rope Club** starts • 3:30 PM • Recreation Center
- 16 **Branches Christmas program** during service • Presbyterian Church
- 16 **Christmas Concert** • 7:00 PM • Baptist Church
- 18 **Community Bus trip to Concord • Eileen Ivers concert** • leaves 5:45 PM
- 24 **Christmas Eve Mass** • 4:00 & 6:00 PM • St Patrick Catholic Church
- 24 **Christmas Eve Service** • 6:30 PM • Presbyterian Church
- 24 **Candlelight Christmas Eve Service** • 6:30 PM • Baptist Church
- 25 **Christmas Day Mass** • 9:00 AM • St Patrick Catholic Church
- 31 **New Year’s Eve Mass** • 4:00 AM • St Patrick Catholic Church



JANUARY

- 1 **New Year’s Day Mass** • 8:00 AM • St Patrick Catholic Church
- 4 **Toddler Playground** starts on Fridays • 10:00 AM • Recreation Center
- 6 **Sunapee Ski Trip** • 10:00 AM • call Recreation Center
- 8 **Strong Living Exercise** program starts • The Grapevine
- 14 **Second Mondays** session “**Coping with Sibling Rivalry**” • 6:30 PM • The Grapevine
- 18 **Kinder’s and Friends Mat Time** starts on Fridays • 12:30 PM • Recreation Center
- 20 **Historical Society** program • “**Antrim House Project**”
- 21 “**Growing a Strong Girl**” discussion • 6:30 PM • The Grapevine at Hancock Library
- 22 “**Raising Cain**” **Boys and Their Ways**” discussion • 6:30 PM • The Grapevine at Hancock Library
- 23 **Fitness Party** • 5:30 AM • Recreation Center
- 28 “**Growing a Strong Girl**” discussion • 6:30 PM • The Grapevine at Hancock Library
- 29 “**Raising Cain**” **Boys and Their Ways**” discussion • 6:30 PM • The Grapevine at Hancock Library

FEBRUARY

- 6 **Harris Center Winter Adventures** starts • 3:15 PM • Recreation Center
- 10 **Sunapee Ski Trip** • 10:00 AM • call Recreation Center
- 11 **Second Mondays** session “**Coping with Sibling Rivalry**” • 6:30 PM • The Grapevine
- 13 **Almost Valentines Day Sunapee Ski Trip** • 8:00 AM • call Recreation Center
- 17 **Historical Society** program • “**Sports Teams in Antrim**”
- 25 **Open Playroom** • 9:30 AM • The Grapevine
- 26 **Mount Snow, VT Ski Trip** • 7:15 AM • call Recreation Center
- 28 **Winter Indoor Fun** • 9:30 AM • The Grapevine
- 29 **Explore and Experiment with Carol** • 9:30 AM • The Grapevine
- 29 **Loon Mountain Ski Trip** • 7:00 AM • call Recreation Center
- 29 **Animal Read-In “Polar Animals”** • 10:00 AM • Tuttle Library



MARCH

- 3 **Home & Harvest Day meeting** • 7:00 PM • at Rick and Diane’s Pizzeria

THESE ANTRIM HILLS: WILLARD MOUNTAIN

Peter Moore

Perhaps the best view of the Town of Antrim is from the upper east slope of Willard Mountain. As the second highest point in town, at 1920 ft above sea level (just behind Bald Mountain at 2032 ft), the perspective of the homes that we live in, the landscape we live on, and the flow-of-the-earth spread out before you to the east, is a grounding experience. An open area near the summit gives the hiker an appreciation of the rural nature of Antrim today and a suggestion of the wilderness it once was.

Willard abuts Tuttle to the north and the smaller Robb Mountain and Bald to the south. These are four of the six “mountains” that rise above Antrim, forming a range—a ram-part of sorts—on Antrim’s western flank.

The most accessible route to the summit of Willard begins just off Brimstone Corner (or Cuddihy Hill Road as some would have it) out past Gregg Lake. The trail head to Willard is approached down a dirt road directly across Brimstone/Cuddihy Hill Road from the upper entrance to Camp Chenoa. One can drive down this lane 30-50 yards and park well off the road just before the gate that ends wheeled travel. (Be sure to respect this gated entrance as it is a right-of-way belonging to the camp as well as a seasonal driveway to the Whittemore family land.

The first leg to Willard is along this dirt road beyond the gate, a gentle half mile or so. On your left, you will begin to see through the trees a magnificent wetland meadow which culminates at its outlet where there is a beaver dam close to the road, a good rest stop. Further along, the road opens to an old spent gravel yard, a terrific place to discover plentiful tracks of wildlife that live here year-round.

Staying straight on, the road enters the woods again, winding up a narrower road/driveway until it breaks into the open where the Whittemore family summer compound is settled with a few rustic cabins and various other signs of summer habitation. The Whittemores, whose land covers a good part of the eastern slope of Willard, kindly allow access through their land to Willard Mountain, to Willard Pond, and to Balancing Rock.

Touching on Balancing Rock: if you have not seen this geologic curiosity, it is well worth the five-minute diversion, following the little trail just past and behind the first cabin (look for the sign with arrow indicating your way). Down this distinct path you will discover a house-sized boulder precariously balanced on a small protrusion of the rock below. This marvelously massive rock was likely moved by a huge ice sheet from the heights just to the north, perhaps from Windsor, or possibly from the ledges of Willard, and was dropped “erratically” in this spot as the last glacial age receded some 10,000 years ago.

Returning to our hike, follow the dirt road to the left of the last cabin, which begins to ascend a bit more steeply, and

winds its way past an old logging landing, evolving soon into a mountain trail that carries on up to and over the near-top of Willard. This part of the hike now follows an excellent path that even the smaller members of a picnic-bound family or group can handle. The trail meanders up through a thinly forested slope of hardwood, hemlock, and boulder-strewn forest.

The upper approach to the summit of Willard is quite unique. Open and grassy, it contains old apple trees and is thigh-high with ferns, and it offers a spaciousness that comes with the selective forestry practices and highland pasture of the past. The path follows easily through the abundant brush, berry bushes, and fallen stone walls that peek out through overgrown cover. In the autumn, after the first killing frost, the acres of browned fern and high grass give off the sweetest smell of summer, unlike any other place or scent I have ever experienced.

One can imagine this upland pasture in past springs and summers when cows and sheep herded-up here to spend the days and nights in cooler, less buggy environs than the humid valleys and fields below. Once I came upon an old cowbell, with the ringer still intact, half sticking out of the earthen path, giving evidence of leisurely summit grazing long ago.

Not far beyond where the ascent tops-out and becomes quite gentle—a meadow glade with sparse trees—you come upon a bare, flat ledge under-foot with signs of a rustic campsite. Here, off the trail to the right, there is an outlook and vista with “the best overall view” of Antrim, which I spoke of earlier. There is a large wedge-shaped, banistered boulder from which to take in Willard’s wonderful view. There is no real outlook from the summit, so this is the best place to linger and look.

If you haven’t had enough of a hike at this point, you can continue your adventure through very pleasant, somewhat level, terrain and discover Willard’s true summit a few hundred yards further, as well as the “backside” trail that descends rapidly to the west. The best way to find the other access to Willard, from the west, is to continue the full descent of the mountain to the very end of Salmon Brook Road. Unless you discover the alternative trail head coming down the mountain from the east, it is difficult to find it coming in from the west.

An ideal half-day leisurely hike and picnic is to stage a vehicle near the end of Salmon Brook Road to the west, and then drive around and make your start from the eastern Brimstone/Cuddihy trailhead, traversing Willard from east-to west. That way, you’ll discover where the Salmon Brook Road side of the trail begins, and next time, you may want to reverse your route for a whole new journey—in these Antrim hills.

Next time: Bald & Robb Mountains





NEWS ABOUT TOWN

CINDY CROCKETT'S BAKERY OPENS

Agricola

You catch wonderful aromas of baking bread, cookies and muffins out on South Main Street before you even enter the door of Cindy Crockett's new bakery that opened in mid-November. On my first visit I was like a kid in a candy store, trying to decide among all the beautiful, rich smelling baked goods, finally choosing a loaf of oatmeal bread, a baguette, and some chocolate chip and sugar cookies, all deliciously fresh from the oven. She bakes all sorts of loaves, including whole grain and artisanal breads. Hours are Tuesday through Fridays, 7:00 am to 6:00 pm, Saturday 8:00 am to 2:00 pm. Phone number is 588-4242. Fresh baked breads will be ready Tuesday through Friday "around 2:00 pm—ish." ❄



DINING AT THE MAPLEHURST INN

Agricola

Beginning in early December the Maplehurst Inn plans to open its dining room and lounge. Owner Juliet Ermitano has hired two chefs, Philip Collins from Washington State and Damon Anthony from Kentucky. They will prepare an American and French menu six nights a week and Sunday brunch. Philip Collins was Chef de Cuisine at Delicas in Rancho Santa Fe, California and chef at Tartain Bistro in Portland Oregon. Damon Anthony was a chef at Story Inn in Nashville, Indiana, and in Portsmouth, New Hampshire the restaurants Gaslight and Victory. Ms. Ermitano says they will support local farmers and vendors. The dining room and lounge will be available for private parties and functions. ❄

TAX RATE REDUCTION

The Board of Selectmen has announced that the tax rate for 2007 has been established at \$20.49/\$1000 of assessed value. This is a reduction of .45 cents/\$1000 of assessed value. The breakdown is as follows:

Town Rate	\$7.83
Local School	\$9.14
State School	\$2.37
County Rate	\$1.15
TOTAL	\$20.49

The Town portion is a reduction of 9%. The Local School portion is an increase of 4%, and the State School portion is a reduction of 4%. The County Tax is an increase of 6%. The overall effect will be a reduction of \$45.00/\$100,000.00 of assessed value. The average taxpayer will save approximately \$90.00 on this year's tax bill compared to last year's. We are very pleased with the reduction in the Town's Rate and we thank all our Department Heads for the efforts they put forth in controlling and lowering expenses as were needed. ❄

ANTRIM FIRE DEPARTMENT

Tod Bryer

Another year is quickly coming to an end, and although it seems as if our call volume is down this year, we still have been busy.

In October we sent a crew into Antrim Elementary School in conjunction with Fire Prevention Week. Every year we go to the school to stress the importance of fire safety, making sure smoke detectors work properly, understanding escape routes, and having family meeting places.

Our training over the last quarter has included auto extrication and a class on thermal imaging cameras. We also had the State of NH's burn trailer in November for live fire training.

Do you enjoy being awakened in the middle of the night? Being paged at the least convenient time? Or helping your neighbor at a moments notice? Then the Antrim Fire Department just might be for you! We are seeking applicants, if you are interested contact any member of the Department, Eric Phillips, or Tod Bryer at 588-2679.

Thank you your continued support. ❄

26 MAIN STREET (P.O. BOX 638)
ANTRIM, NH 03440

Phone: 603-588-3222
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SPIRALSCOUTS

Jess Baribault, Co-Leader

Silverling Circle #58, the local chapter of SpiralScouts International, had a terrific fall season. This was our first year walking in the Home & Harvest Parade. The scouts had a great time creating beautiful banners representing the five elements of our program (Earth, Fire, Water, Air, and Spirit), and Pete and I had fun watching people enjoy the drumming. We won our group drum at the Grapevine auction at last year's Home & Harvest Day. Also in September, some families participated in Southern NH Pagan Pride Day, which collected food and money for charity.

"Celebrate Samhain" on October 27 brought in 250 items of nonperishable food for the Peterborough Town Hall food pantry, several large bags of winter clothing for the Peterborough Unitarian Universalist Church's Mitten Tree Project, and several hundred dollars for our Circle. This money will be used to fund future community projects, purchase uniforms, badges, and award pins, and take educational field trips. Thank you to all the attendees and hard-working volunteers. See you at next year's Celebrate Samhain!

This fall we completed our badges in Drumming, First Aid and Personal Safety, Nutrition, and Community Service. We also created holiday cards to send to soldiers serving our nation.

In December, we will work on our Nutrition and Cooking badges, and have a special outdoor Yule (Winter Solstice) gathering. We will also join our sister group, Spiral Bear Circle of Londonderry, for the annual Yule Fest—with live music, workshops, and local merchants—in time for the gift-giving holidays.

January will again bring us outdoors for our Birding badges. We are lucky to have two very experienced birders among our friends who can share their wisdom with us. This is also a great opportunity for snowshoeing and photography!

In February we'll tap our creative energy and earn our Sculpture badges, and celebrate Imbolc, the Pagan holiday that honors Brigid, the Celtic goddess of poetry, healing, metal-smithing, and other arts, who later became known as Saint Brigit.

In March, we'll make our annual trip to Stonewall Farm for the Sap Gathering Contest, which falls near the spring equinox, also known as Ostara or Eostre. The scouts always look forward to visiting the animals, and tasting the gifts of our local trees.

"SpiralScouts™ International is an independent, non-profit, co-ed scouting organization for youth ages 3-18 and their families. Its activities are directed by the goals and interests of its members, and include everything from sculpture and painting to drumming and mythology. Its philosophy is rooted in the ideals of ecology, inclusivity, and balance of gender energies, and its mission centers on boys and girls working together to heal our Mother Earth. For more information about the SpiralScouts program, visit www.SpiralScouts.org.

We meet the second Sunday of each month at 2:00pm. Please get in touch if you'd like to attend. Registration is \$15 per year, and interested families or volunteers are invited to check out a meeting before deciding to join. For information, call Jess at 588-4219, email: SpiralScoutsJess@yahoo.com, or visit http://groups.yahoo.com/group/New_Hampshire_SpiralScouts.

We look forward to hearing from you. Winter Blessings!



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TUTTLE LIBRARY NEWS

Contributors: Kathryn Chisholm, Melissa Lawless,
and Kristin Readel

BUILDING UPDATE

Our new library addition is completed and open for business! This section contains a new larger Children's Room, a workroom for staff, a Circulation Lobby, and a new Stack Room on the lower level which holds the Adult Fiction and Non-Fiction. We closed for one week to allow time for all of the library's collections to be moved from the old part of the building into the addition. The work included installation of air conditioning and a new heating system, an elevator, a sprinkler system, and a security system. We are up-to-code and meet all state and federal regulations. Our computer network has been updated as well.

John Kendall and his crew have begun renovations of the original building, some of which will be electrical and mechanical. Carpets will be removed, hardwood floors refinished, fireplaces opened and existing light fixtures replaced. This building will house a Reading and Reference Room with tables and comfortable seating, and a new Young Adult area as well as a bathroom on the second floor. If all goes according to plan, we expect the project to be completed in 3 to 4 months.

While we are under construction, biographies and the oversized non-fiction are temporarily housed in the Archive Room. Feel free to browse the catalog and request specific titles from the collection; the staff will be happy to help you. We look forward to having the entire collection fully integrated in the near future. Thanks for your co-operation and patience.

CURRENT ENTRANCE TO LIBRARY

Our current entrance for the library is located at the rear of the new addition where handicapped parking and a ramp are available. Our library hours of operation remain the same:


Monday & Wednesday	2:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Tuesday & Thursday	2:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Friday	9:00 am – 12:00 noon
Saturday	10:00 am – 4:00 pm

PROGRAMS

Patron Appreciation Day	Saturday Dec. 1
Animal Read-In (Polar Animals)	Friday Feb. 29 10 am

PATRON APPRECIATION DAY

Our annual Patron Appreciation Day will be held on Saturday December 1st. Please join us in the new addition as we celebrate the season and the valued relationship we share

 continued on page 24



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with our library patrons. We thank you so much for your continued support and look forward with excitement to our new future in our completed addition and freshly renovated building.

ANIMAL READ - IN

We invite Pre-School and Elementary School children to a Polar Animal Read-In on Friday February 29th at 10:00 am. It is scheduled at the tail end of ConVal's Winter Recess just as parents are at their wit's end, and we plan to entertain Antrim's children with stories of endangered animals in the Arctic and Antarctic. Refreshments will be served.

AUTHOR PROFILE

Madeleine L'Engle, beloved author of the *Wrinkle in Time* series, passed away in September of this year. Born in New York City in 1918, she began writing stories at age five. Madeleine married actor Hugh Franklin, who later became a star of the long-running soap opera *All My Children*. Ms. L'Engle completed *A Wrinkle in Time* in 1960, but it was rejected by more than two dozen publishers before it was finally accepted for publication by Farrar, Straus & Giroux in 1962. During the 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s, Madeleine L'Engle wrote dozens of books for children and adults, including memoirs, poetry, novels, and explorations on the subject of faith and religion. She is most remembered for the *Wrinkle in Time* series, the first of which won the Newberry Award. The Tuttle Library has eighteen Madeleine L'Engle titles in various formats.

RESOURCE HIGHLIGHT

The parenting resource materials entitled "I Am Your Child" from the Strengthening Families Project sponsored by Verizon and NH Children's Trust Fund and the Grapevine Family and Community Resource Center are now available for lending. Twelve different pamphlets on stages of child development are free for the taking. Available for a two-week loan period are twelve individual DVDs on such topics as nutrition, discipline, fathering, and special needs. Each DVD is hosted by a noted celebrity including Whoopi Goldberg,

Sylvester Stallone, Jamie Lee Curtis, Rob Reiner, and Maria Shriver.

GIFT BASKET FUNDRAISING RAFFLE

We have begun a fundraising raffle for a gift basket entitled "Thinking of You" which will be available to the winning ticket holder in time for holiday gift giving. Friends and family will be delighted to receive this basket of Ghirardelli dark chocolate with caramel, butter cookies, sesame crackers, cabernet black pepper cheese spread, Ahmad English tea, chocolate toffee wafer, caramel cookies, buttered peanut crunch, hazelnut, peanut butter and chocolate truffles, and a cheese knife. Tickets are \$1.00 each and six for \$5.00.

HOLIDAYS / CLOSED

Monday Dec. 24th - Tues. Dec. 25th Christmas Holiday
Tuesday Jan. 1st New Year's Day
Monday Jan. 21st Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Monday Feb. 18th Presidents' Day

NEW BOOKS BY:

FICTION: Susan Wittig Albert, David Baldacci, M.C. Beaton, Jim Butcher, Meg Cabot, Jennifer Chiaverini, Laura Childs, Jill Churchill, Patricia Cornwell, Clive Cussler, Mary Janice Davidson, Richard Paul Evans, Joanne Fluke, Ken Follett, Dick Francis, Diana Gabaldon, Sue Grafton, Andrew Greeley, John Grisham, Laurel Hamilton, Charlaine Harris, Ursula Hegi, Dee Henderson, Iris Johansen, Jan Karon, Garrison Keillor, Dean Koontz, Mercedes Lackey, Anne McCaffrey, Alexander McCall Smith, Debbie Macomber, Margaret Maron, Archer Mayor, Marcia Muller, Robert Parker, James Patterson, Richard North Patterson, Anne Perry, J.D. Robb, John Sandford, Alice Sebold, Sharon Shinn, Karin Slaughter, Danielle Steel, Vicki Stiefel, William Tapply, William Tapply, and Philip Craig,

NON-FICTION: Patti Boyd, Tom Brokaw, Eric Clapton, John Dean, Paula Deen, Alan Greenspan, Jim Lehrer, Suze Orman, Valerie Plame, Bill Richardson, Martha Stewart, and others.... *



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ANTRIM & BENNINGTON BOY SCOUTS

Brian Beihl

BOY SCOUT WREATH SALE

Troop 2 wishes to thank Antrim residents for supporting this year's holiday wreath sale. The Troop is on track to be able to help pay half of a week of summer camp for every boy in the troop who would like to go to Camp Bell or Hidden Valley in summer 2008. For those who forgot to reserve a wreath, a limited number will be available at Hilltop Farm on Norway Hill in Hancock. For reserved wreaths, most customers will have picked up their orders at the Legion / Odd Fellows hall on West Street. If you did not, please contact Brian Beihl at 588-3014 to arrange for a pick up time.

NEW HAMPSHIRE JAMBOREE

Every four years, the Daniel Webster Council hosts the New Hampshire Jamboree which this year attracted over 4,500 Scouts from New Hampshire, New England, and Canada to Gunstock recreation area in Gilford. Troop 2 attended the weekend-long event which included a fly-in by a NH Air National Guard helicopter, and scores of demonstrations and competitions.

NEW SCOUT LEADERSHIP

Troop 2 elected new leaders this fall, with Luke Johnson elected as senior patrol leader and J.P. Ranta and Ben Payne as patrol leaders. These leaders are responsible for running meetings, planning events, and organizing community service projects.

TROOP 2 PLANNING OUTINGS

Three outings are coming up, including winter camping on Gregg Lake, Klondike Derby, and a spring bike trek on Cape Cod. Sound fun? Contact Scoutmaster Brian Beihl for more information on joining!

PACK 2 CUB SCOUTS

Pack 2 and Troop 2 collected food for the annual Scouting for Food drive for local food banks. Boys distributed special shopping bags November 10 and returned to pick them up

on November 17. Food donations to food banks has been down this year, but fuel prices have increased need. Troop 2 & Pack 2 urge you to support Antrim's food pantry at the Antrim Baptist Church, 588-6614.

NEW TIGER & WOLF DENS ORGANIZED

Following presentations in Antrim Elementary and Pierce schools, new Tiger and Wolf dens have been formed and are meeting at the Legion/Odd Fellows hall on the 2nd, 3rd & 4th Tuesdays of the month, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Contact Brian Beihl at 588-3014 for more information.

POPCORN SALES A HUGE SUCCESS!

Pack 2 just completed its popcorn sales, earning money for a spring trip to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. 90 cases of popcorn were sold, and the boys are grateful for the support the community has shown.

INTERESTED IN JOINING ANTRIM SCOUTING?

Cub Scouts starts at first grade and continues to fifth grade. Boy Scouts serves boys from 11 to 18. Contact Troop 2 Scoutmaster Brian Beihl at 588-3014. ❄️

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ANTRIM HISTORICAL SOCIETY WINTER PROGRAMS

Missy Taylor

The Antrim Historical Society has three interesting programs planned for the winter months. On Sunday, January 20, Nina Harding will report on the "Antrim House Project." Nina is spearheading the effort to document every house in Antrim, with photographs, the history of ownership, and other information about the residence from the time of its construction, whether that was in the 1700s or 2007. This effort is a continuation of the work of David Hurlin, who started the project and presented his work to the Historical Society in 1993. That information has been a valuable resource since then for Antrim residents looking into the history of their homes. Now that Antrim has assigned street numbers to its houses, new notebooks are being put together with house numbers, up to date information, and current pictures. The first notebook, which is almost ready, will include Main Street from Bennington Town Line to Smith and Goodell Roads, Grove Street, Elm Street, and Elm Street extension.

February's program will be held on Sunday, February 17 and will feature "Sports Teams of Antrim" with speakers Don Paige, Ella Davies, and Rick Davis. Antrim has an illustrious history of athletics, fielding not only school teams but town teams as well. In the early 1900's, the Cuddihy boys dominated baseball in the region for many years. According to *Parades and Promenades*, "Regardless of the sport, one could be assured that if the Cuddihys were playing there would be tremendous thrills, wild excitement, great confrontation, and simulated injuries which were agonizing to behold." The contributions of many members of Antrim's families to various sporting events will be discussed, and all are welcome to contribute their own experience, and to share photographs and other memorabilia.

The Annual Meeting of the Historical Society will be held on Sunday, March 16. Eric Tenney will present a talk on "Antrim and the American Civil War." As those who have followed Eric's articles in recent *Limrik* issues know, the War had a significant impact on those from Antrim who served as soldiers, and those on the home-front. Eric's encyclopedic knowledge of the Civil War and the depth of his familiarity

with the history of the Town of Antrim promise to make this a fascinating program.

For more information, please pick up the Historical Society brochure and watch for program announcements in the newspapers and on the town's website at www.antrim.nh.org. Historical Society programs are usually presented on the third Sunday of every month at the Presbyterian Church at 3 pm.

The Antrim Historical Society is dedicated to the preservation and understanding of Antrim's heritage. All those who are interested in Antrim's past and preserving its present are urged to join. Dues are \$10 a year. For more information about joining, please contact Diane Chauncey, Membership Chair, at 588-6785, Ext. 228. The Society depends on member dues and donations for its operating support. All of the Society's programs and meetings are open to the public without charge. ❄



Thelma Nichols

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GREAT BROOK SCHOOL

G. Bruce West, Principal

Below are some quotes from essays written by 7th graders about their exciting week in Maine at the Kieve Leadership School. This trip was the result of a school and community collaboration. We wish to thank the students and staff involved, as well as the Verney and Bitty Foundations. Without the support of these organizations and our dedicated staff, this trip would not have been possible.

“Before I went to Kieve, I thought that the cabins were going to be old and dirty. Once we finally arrived, however, the cabins looked a lot nicer. There was a time when we had “cabin time” and at first that sounded boring, but in the end “cabin time” was fun. We got to hang out with friends and talk and get to know other people better than we knew them before.” DB

“I was really surprised by the food. It tasted better than I expected. The cabins especially the bunk beds also surprised me. The first night two people in my cabin fell off the top bunks when they were asleep. Even though the cabins felt like they were going to fall over any second, they were surprisingly comfortable. What really surprised me was how many acronyms they used.” OH

“One thing that really surprised me about myself is that I could trust people belaying me. The heights at the ropes course (close to 50 feet) surprised me because I am not used to that height. Some boys (from other schools) stay there at Kieve for a whole month at one time. That must be tough to be away from home. That surprised me also.” BP

“Some of the things I enjoyed last week were the ropes course, cabin time, and all the different games we played together as a “community”. One of the games we played that a lot of people enjoyed was the giant game of monopoly, where we were the pieces, doubles and rabbit, rabbit.” MT

“During the week, I had a lot of questions left unanswered. I wondered where they bought the dye for the t-shirts. I also wondered how they placed the ropes up in the trees for the high ropes courses and especially the huge staples in the trees for the 50 footer. I wondered how the person belaying me, a person only slightly larger than me, didn't get pulled up in the air while letting me down.” JG

“Now that I am home, I occasionally reflect back on our time in Maine. I think of all the lessons we learned and all the new people we met. For me, the clearest image is the giant eagle's nest we saw as we were leaving. And after all this reflecting, I'd say it was a fun time at Kieve.” DT

Thanks to the 7th graders who contributed their work. We hope to share more student voices in issues to come. ❄

ANTRIM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NOTES

John Robertson

We had a great Home and Harvest weekend with many very successful events, including the Pumpkin Regatta with over 300 pumpkins, the Skateboard Races that had more than 45 boarders competing for the Old Gold Jug, and the Soap Box Derby whose 14 homemade go-carts roared down Summer Street. More than a thousand people came out on Saturday to see the parade, visit vendors, and attend the barbeque and fireworks.

Several new enterprises have opened their doors recently, changing the face of Antrim; we welcome Terry Cutter's Cutter Flooring and Furnishings (taking over from Jest), Cindy Crockett's "Bakery 42" on South Main Street, Loyall Allen's Allen Chiropractic next door to the bakery, the Maplehurst Inn now owned by Juliet Ermitano, and the Kendall's new Place In The Woods.

In November Brian Beihl and his crew planted 2500 dafodil bulbs at the entrances to town on Routes 202 and 31. Thanks to Brian and all who helped.

The Chamber has had a good year. The maps and directory have been published and mailed to Antrim residents, and additional copies are available at downtown businesses and the Town Hall. Three after-hours events were held showcasing area businesses, and the Chamber sponsored several events during Home and Harvest.

We plan to hold an Annual Meeting dinner at the Maplehurst Inn in January. The public is invited, so watch for the date and time. ❄

HOME AND HARVEST DAY



HOME AND HARVEST DAY

All photos by Lyman Gilmore



ANTRIM RECREATION

Celeste Lunetta, Director

IMPORTANT PUBLIC MEETING FOR GREGG LAKE BEACH IMPROVEMENTS

December 13, 6:30 pm at the Recreation Office

The Recreation Department is looking for your input on suggested improvements to the parks facilities and infrastructure at Gregg Lake Beach. Currently, the plan is to fund a walkway for wheelchairs, scooters or other mobility special needs, a small shelter at the Boat Launch, and upgrading the electricity and structure at the Bath/Guard shed. We will be having a meeting on Thursday December 13, 6:30 pm at the Recreation Office, to get your feedback and opinions. If you are unable to make this meeting, and wish to find out more and give us some suggestions, please call Celeste Lunetta at the Recreation Department, 588-3121, Pat Leonard, or Diane Chauncey.

MEMORIAL PARK IMPROVEMENTS AND SKATEBOARD PARK

There are planned improvements for 2008 that include additional Skateboard equipment, as well as some benches and swings at Memorial Park. Barbara Reynolds is heading up a Skateboard Park subcommittee. This group is looking at the future needs and best management of skateboarding in Antrim.

TALENT SHOW

Coming in March! Get your acts together for the Spring Talent Show. Details are still being developed for this new event! Do come. The tentative date: Friday, March 21.

Upcoming Recreation Programs for December–February 2007-2008

Antrim Youth Chorus: Initial practices started in November, but chorus is still open for new singers. The chorus is for kids ages 7–12, or with permission of the director. This season the chorus is led by Patrick Cogan who is the music and art teacher at Antrim Elementary School.

After School Jump Rope Club: Starting on December 14th for children in grades 1–5 who want to be in a jump roping club. This is an opportunity to gain and develop skills, and friendships! Fridays 3:30–4:30 pm, December 14–February 22.

Harris Center Winter Adventures: Children ages 5 through 8, Wednesdays, Feb 6–March 19, 3:15–4:30 at Antrim Recreation. Cost is \$35.00 for the six-week session. Join the Harris Center's naturalist for a series of after-school winter-time adventures out of doors. From snowshoeing to tracking local wildlife, kids will get to know how animals survive the cold blasts of winter. Winter fort building, shelter making, and burrow finding will also be part of the adventure.

Dance Dance Revolution/Open Rec Center including Ping Pong: Come over to the gym for Dance Dance Revolution, crafts, and games. Register once, then come as often as

you like. December Hours: 3rd–5th grade kids, ages 7-10, Wednesdays 3:00–4:30. Middle School kids ages 9–13; Saturdays, 12:30–3pm. January hours will be announced on the web page and at the Recreation Office Bulletin Board.

Roller Skating is coming to Antrim! Sponsored by Antrim Friends of Recreation, there will be roller skating in Antrim starting in January. This event will be held biweekly, and details will be available by the end of January. Participants will be required to use the skates that we have at the event, and there will be a small fee, as well as concessions.

Ice Skating: Join other outdoor enthusiasts as we set up an ice rink at Shea Field for ice-skating and hot chocolate parties on Saturday mornings, and more! We will get the rink set up as soon as the weather permits, and we will be looking for volunteers to help keep the ice clear.

Community Bus Ride to Ski area: The Antrim Community Bus will be providing transportation to Crotched Mountain, one way only, on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Bus will leave Antrim at 3:20, with pickups at Antrim Town Gym and Antrim Town Hall. Cost is \$1.00 a ride, or \$20 for a season pass. A bus season pass would get you unlimited rides up to the ski area when the bus is running. If passenger interest is not strong, we will have a call-for a ride system that will require you to call the Rec office the night before to confirm that you want to take the bus the following day.

After School and Teacher Workshop day field trips to Crotched Mountain Ski Area: These trips give skiers and riders an affordable option to experience what our local hill has to offer. \$16 for elementary and middle school, and \$26 for High School and adults provides a lift ticket, group lesson (8 and older), rentals and a small meal! We will organize Field trips for the Following days:

Tuesday January 15, 3–7pm; Monday January 28 9–3pm; February 5th, February 19th. Call us and watch for registration flyers.

Floor Hockey: This is intended for 9th grade students. Floor Hockey will be on Thursdays, starting in February. Coach Richard Reilly is BACK!

Ice Fishing: Watch for more information on upcoming ice fishing days at Gregg Lake. Join Take Me Fishing in-

 continued on page 30

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structors and local outdoor enthusiasts for camaraderie, instruction, and fun on the lake! Details about the program will be released in early January.

PROGRAMS FOR OUR YOUNGEST RESIDENTS.

Toddler Playground: Fridays, January 4th–March 28th; 1–3 year olds, 10:00–11:30. An indoor arena for socializing, gross motor movement, dancing, and playing for the very young child, best for children ages 9 months–3 years old.

Kinder's and Friends Mat Time: Fridays January 18–February 22nd; 3–5 year olds, 12:30–1:30. A low key program that will provide a structured arena for your child to develop basic tumbling, dancing and balancing skills, with some time for free play at the end of each session.

FITNESS

New Fitness Program–Loosen Up: This is a program recommended for people who have already celebrated their 50th birthday. Designed to maintain or increase range of motion, balance, loosening up, and decreasing soreness and stiffness in your joints. Heather Boucher, our instructor, is a very expe-

rienced personal trainer, and has led programs that help alleviate the symptoms of arthritis and Fibromyalgia. This is a good class to take if you want to loosen up and be more flexible and comfortable!

Days: Wednesdays, starting January 9th and continuing for a minimum of six weeks. Cost is \$8.00 per class, or \$40.00 for the six-week session.

Fitness Party: Wednesday January, 23rd, 5:30–8:30 pm Antrim Town Gym. We are back with this event after a successful fall event. This is an opportunity to try at least five different classes and explore the different wellness and exercise programs we can offer here in Antrim. For a flat rate of \$10.00 per person, you can take a few or all of the classes. Watch the town web page for more details.

- **Cardio Kick:** Wednesdays at the Antrim Town Gym, 5:30–6:30 Ongoing
- **Step Aerobics:** Saturdays 9:00–10:00 at the Antrim Town Gym: Ongoing
- **Pilates:** Saturdays, 7:45–8:45 at the Antrim Town Gym, Ongoing
- **Yoga:** Tuesdays at GBS Cafeteria, 6:00–7:15, ongoing
- **Indoor Walking:** Daily Monday–Friday, AES/Antrim Town Gym

6:30–8:00 am. Free, but Pre registration is required, and you must sign in and out.

- **Ongoing:** Volleyball Thursdays at 7 pm, Basketball Sundays at 6 pm, Chess Club Thursdays at 7 pm.

Ski Trips on the Community Bus

We will head out to some local ski areas, weather permitting! We need a minimum of passengers for these trips, and expect to hear from interested folks at least one week before the scheduled trip.

Sundays at Sunapee: NH Residents Day is every Sunday when NH residents are \$30. We will drive the bus up there on January 6th and February 10th. Bus will leave Antrim Gym at 10:00 am, ski Sunapee from 12–4 pm. Bus is \$2.00 per seat for Antrim Residents, \$5.00 for all others. Sunapee requires proof of residency for bargain ticket.


Almost Valentines Day, February 13. Join us for this Sunapee adventure. Leave Antrim at 8am, return in the late afternoon. Tickets are two for one, so \$60 gets two adults a full day of skiing. Cost of bus is \$2.00 for Antrim Residents, \$5.00 for all others.

Mount Snow in Vermont! Tuesday February 26: Visit Mount Snow, Crotched Mountains new sister resort. Depart Antrim on Community Bus at 7:15 am, ski Mt Snow for the day, return at 6PM. Cost is \$45.00 for youth, and \$50 for adults, includes lift tickets and transportation on the Community Bus.

Coach Bus Trip to Loon Mountain. Friday February 29. Join us for our annual trek by coach bus to Loon Mountain. Trip leaves Antrim at 7:00 am, and returns around 6pm. Cost is \$50.00 for club member adults, \$40 for club member juniors. Call the Rec center for more information.

General Community Bus Trips

Friday December 7: Trader Joe's and the Christmas Tree Shop. Leave Antrim at 12:15 and return by 5:30. Pick up available in Bennington and Frankestown.

 continued on next page



The September *Limrik* contained a photo of Glen Cook's giant bug metal sculpture on a stump outside Cook's garage on 202 North. Here is his sculpture of a Harley Davidson motorcycle constructed almost entirely of flat two inch steel: 7.5 feet long x 4.5 feet tall. Come take a look at this graceful work of art hanging in the garage. (Photo by Gilmore)

Bus will travel to South Nashua for a one-hour stop at the Pheasant Lane Mall or Trader Joe's (Passenger Choice). Bus will then travel up to the Christmas Tree Shop for a one-hour stop before returning to Antrim, enjoying the holiday lights on the way home. Cost is \$3.00 for Antrim Residents, \$8.00 for all others.

Tuesday December 18: Eileen Ivers: An Nollaig (An Irish Christmas). It's a foot-stomping holiday celebration with nine-time All-Ireland Fiddle Champ Eileen Ivers. With traditional music and authentic Irish dancing, Ivers shares the joy of beautiful Irish holiday customs. Bus will leave Antrim Town Hall at 5:45 pm, to arrive in Concord in time to enjoy this first come first serve free performance. This trip is free for Antrim Residents. Pre registration is required, and we will run the trip if we meet our minimum of 6 passengers. Other general interest trips may be scheduled based on weather and interest. Please stay tuned to the town webpage. Find information about the bus trips by going to antrimnh.org, scrolling to Community Bus Link, and clicking on the trip you are interested in. You can also call the office at 588-3121.

Regular Shopping Community Bus Trips:

WEDNESDAY SHOPPING TRIPS ON ANTRIM'S COMMUNITY BUS. These lovely morning rides include great company, news about local events, and the chance to create our own bus route. Please Join us soon! These trips are not just about errands, or a ride, they are about sharing, cost saving tips, laughter, sorrow, and time.

Upcoming Schedule:

- December 5th - Hillsboro: Rite Aide, Shaw's.
- December 12th - Peterborough: Downtown, Plaza.
- December 19th - Hillsboro: Rite Aide, Shaw's.
- December 26th and January 2nd there will be no bus—Happy Holidays!
- January 9th - Hillsboro: Rite Aid, Shaw's.
- January 16th - Peterborough: Downtown, Plaza.
- January 23rd - Hillsboro: Rite Aid, Shaw's.
- January 30th - Peterborough: Downtown, Plaza.
- February 6: - Hillsboro: Rite Aid, Shaw's.
- February 13- no trip
- February 20- Hillsborough: Rite Aid, Shaws.
- February 27-Peterborough- Downtown Plaza, School Vacation.

Cost: \$3.00 per seat Antrim Resident and \$4.00 per seat Non-Resident.

Route: 9:30 am Bus leaves Antrim Town Hall, 9:35 am Picks up at Antrim Village.

Bennington Town Hall pick-ups are 9:40 am for Peterborough trip schedule and no earlier than 9:15 am for Hillsboro trip schedule.

Alternative pick up locations may be possible...call if you are unable to get to town!

12:00PM Bus returns to Antrim

Please call ahead at 588-3121 for a reservation to confirm that you are going. Bus holds 14.

The bus shopping trip will not happen when the ConVal School District cancels school due to weather.

Our office is open Tuesdays 9-5 pm, Wednesdays from 9-5 pm; Thursdays 6-9 pm; Saturdays 9-2 pm. You can catch us at other times, and we can schedule appointments if you call 588-3121. *

LIMERICK CONTEST

As in the past, the *Limrik* will award a \$50 Toadstool Bookstore gift certificate to the best entry completing this Christmas limerick by our Resident Limricist, Harlow Richardson. Entries can be mailed to The Antrim Limrik, PO Box 30, Antrim, NH 03440, or emailed to l_gilmore@conknet.com.

Pretty wrappings all over the floor
And ribbons, once bows, now no more
There's nary a tummy
That hasn't said yummy

Visit our newly constructed Outdoor Sporting Wing.



Shop outside the box this Christmas. Avoid e-shopping hassles, high shipping costs and big crowds.

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HOME AND HARVEST DAY



✝ CHURCH NEWS ✝

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

588-2209

REV. PEGGI KEPHART BOYCE

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM

(CHILDCARE AVAILABLE FOR 4-YEAR OLDS AND UNDER)

SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM

AA Meetings Sundays 7:00 PM

Spectrum Art Association Thursdays 9:00 AM–12 NOON

Dec 1 • Hanging of the greens

Dec 2 • Hanging of the Chrismons during service

Dec 9 • Congregational Meeting after service with pot-luck lunch

Dec 16 • Branches Christmas program during service

Dec 24 • Christmas Eve Service 6:30 PM

The Revival Shop, quality used clothing
Open Saturdays 10 AM – 2 PM

CHURCH OF CHRIST

464-2701

LARRY WARREN, PREACHER

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY 10:00 AM

SUNDAY SERVICE 11:00 AM

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00 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

Dec 16 • Christmas Concert “Emmanuel, Celebrating Heaven’s Child” 7:00 PM

Dec 24 • Candlelight Christmas Eve service 6:30 PM

SAINT PATRICK CHURCH OF DIVINE MERCY PARISH

10 GREENFIELD RD, BENNINGTON

588-2180

REV. GERALD BELANGER

MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY 4:00 PM • SUNDAY 8 & 10:30 AM
THURSDAY and FRIDAY 7:30 AM

Dec 20 • Hours of Reconciliation 3-4 & 6-7 PM

Dec 24 • Christmas Eve Mass 4:00 & 6:00 PM

Dec 25 • Christmas Mass 9:00 AM

Dec 31 • New Years Eve Mass 4:00 PM

Jan 1 • New Year’s Mass 8:00 PM

ANTRIM CHURCH OF CHRIST

Larry Warren, Preacher

The Church in Antrim is still meeting in the church building at 100 Main Street. We plan to be there all winter. The church is also planning to build a new ramp and steps to better facilitate the needs of handicapped people as well as to be in compliance with the ADA. Our meeting times are as follows: Sundays: Bible Study 10:00 am Worship Services 11:00 am Wednesdays: Bible Study 7:00 pm.

I am also beginning a basic American Sign Language class that will meet at 7:00pm on Mondays in the restaurant (Rick & Diane’s). I have a degree in deaf ministry which includes course training in ASL. I have also studied deaf culture as part of my training. The sign language class will include some insight into the deaf culture to help build awareness of the differences between hearing and deaf. These classes are in American Sign Language, the preferred language of the deaf community. As for my background in sign language, I spent three years taking classes in deaf culture, deaf psychology, ASL, and interpreting for the deaf. In addition, most of my theological and biblical classes were in ASL with deaf students. The sign language class is free and open to the public.



HOME AND HARVEST DAY



Rev. Peggi Boyce

WEEKLY CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

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

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 9:30-11:30—Better Beginnings parent-child program

Monday 3-5:00—Better Beginnings parent-child program—*spaces available!*

Wednesday and Friday 9-11:30—The Learning Vine preschool

Friday 10:00-11:30—Better Beginnings for Babies—*spaces available!*

Better Beginnings parent-child programs are for children 18 months to 5 years of age 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 join other parents in an adjacent room for coffee and discussions about child and family-centered topics with our parent group facilitators.

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. Facilitated by one of our early childhood educators.

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

PRE-REGISTER FOR THE LEARNING VINE 08/09

Believe it or not, families are already pre-registering their children for preschool! Last year The Learning Vine preschool at The Grapevine had a waiting list, and so now is a good time to schedule a visit with The Learning Vine for you and your child. The Grapevine currently is accepting pre-registrations from families already enrolled in Grapevine programs, and will begin accepting pre-registrations from other families beginning January (no money required yet). Families may pre-register children who will be 3 to 5 years of age by September 2008.

SPECIAL CHILDREN'S AND FAMILY PROGRAMS

"Raising Boys, Raising Girls," with Jane Richards-Jones, MA, and Wendy Hill, MEd at the Hancock Library from 6:30 to 8pm on Mondays and Tuesdays in January.

Mondays, January 21 and 28—"Growing a Strong Girl"—Using the book *Growing a Girl* as a guide, Jane will lead a discussion on the ongoing effects of sexism in schools and society which shape and influence our daughters, especially in the middle school years, and the role the media plays in the lives of the girls. The discussion will include lots of suggestions for parents for raising a strong and resilient daughter.

Tuesdays, January 22 and 29—"Raising Cain: Boys and Their Ways." Wendy and participants will explore boys' early years, focusing on preschool and elementary age boys. What is all that hero and weapon play about? Is it necessary? How do I handle it? How are boys different from girls? What do boys need from their parents and community? The 2-session workshop will begin with viewing the first half of "Raising Cain," the PBS documentary.

Free February Vacation Fun

Open Playroom—Monday, February 25th 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.

Winter Indoor Fun—Thursday, February 28th from 9:30 to 11:30. Games, cooking, and crafts with Carol Lunan, for children 4 years of age and older. Parents welcome!

Explore and Experiment with Carol—Friday, February 29th from 9:30 to 11:30—for children 4 years of age and older. Parents welcome!

Second Mondays at The Grapevine

December 10th—"Prevention Starts Early" with Sydney Wilson-Smith, for parents of children birth to 5 years of age, and expectant parents. Join Sydney for a Powerpoint presentation and conversation about how to set the stage in the early years to prevent substance abuse later in life.

January 14th and February 11th—"Coping with Sibling Rivalry" with Jane Richards-Jones. Tired of the daily battles

—continued on next page



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between your kids? Unsure about when and how to intervene? Then these Second Monday discussions are for you! Participants will learn more about:

- **Why** brothers and sisters fight in the first place
- **How** to help children deal positively with their feelings toward siblings and avoid role and equality struggles
- **When and how** to intervene productively in fights between the children.

About Second Mondays: Sessions run from 6:30 to 8:00pm. Walk-ins are welcome if space is available, but we encourage people to call The Grapevine to sign up in advance. On-site childcare can be available for participants who sign up prior to the discussion. Have an idea for a workshop or discussion? Give us a call!

STRONG LIVING STARTS AGAIN JANUARY 8th

Strong Living is an exercise program for adults 50 years of age and older, created at Tufts University. Research has clearly shown that older adults can improve their health and function independently longer with appropriate balance and flexibility training. Call The Grapevine now to reserve space in this 12-week program, as it 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 urgent and emergency need for families and individuals who use wood to heat their homes and cannot afford to buy firewood. Hours: Mon 9-3, Tues 9-1, Wed-Fri 9-noon and by appointment.

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 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 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 resources, or to register for programs. We welcome visits. The Grapevine is a nonprofit service organization funded by grants and local support. *





Visit our Website
www.appleshedrealty.com

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