

The Limrik

A Quarterly Journal

For, by and about the people of Antrim.

Vol. 19 #2
March 2010

YOUR SCHOOL VOTE COUNTS

Mary Allen
ConVal School Board

By now, most Antrim voters have read newspaper accounts about the upcoming school district vote or talked with friends about it. Some of you have already decided how you are going to vote on the budget, bond, and the rest of the warrant; some of you will decide just days before the vote or as you head to the polls. This article is aimed at the late-

—continued on page 4

TOWN ELECTIONS

MARCH 9 • TOWN HALL

8:00 AM – 7:00 PM

TOWN MEETING

MARCH 11 • TOWN GYM

7:00 PM

Dawne and Louis (Sonny) Hugron ANTRIM BENNINGTON FOOD PANTRY

Citizen of the Year Award

Dick Winslow

Fifty guests applauded as Dawne and Sonny Hugron received the Chamber of Commerce's "Citizen of the Year Award" at the Chamber's annual dinner January 21st in the Maplehurst Inn. The award was in recognition of the Hugrons' leadership work with the Antrim Bennington Food Pantry, Dawne

since 1987, and Sonny since his retirement six years ago. The presentation by Crista Tenney Salamy was filled with warmth, and the award was accompanied by a generous gift of \$250 by the Chamber to the Pantry. Those who know the Hugrons admire them not only for

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CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM

EDITORIAL

Lyman Gilmore, Editor

After the Antrim budget meeting February 11th, I spoke with several people about Administrator Galen Stearns's presentation of the 2010 budget. Galen inherited Antrim's 1.2 million dollar deficit crisis when he was hired in October, and ever since appears to have worked assiduously to discover what got us into this mess, and what we can do to get out of it.

At the previous two meetings on the deficit in November and December, the audience was shocked and angry. At this meeting they were seriously concerned and worried, but more willing to listen than to accuse.

The people I spoke with included, Ben Pratt, Kara Penney, Eric Tenney, David Boulé, and Wayno Olson, and when I asked them what they thought about our chances for solving the deficit, most expressed cautious optimism, some skepticism, yes, but optimism nonetheless. Ben said that Galen has done a fine job from which we can take a little bit of comfort, Kara that he has gained her trust, Eric that we are definitely on the right track, and David that he still has questions about where the money went but that Galen has done as good a job as anyone could. Wayno expressed the most skepticism about our ability to meet the town's bills while paying astronomical loan interest.

If ever there was a time for Antrim residents to study the Warrant and show up at Town Meeting, this is it. See you March 11th at 7:00 pm. ☙

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

Subs. Exps. 'date'

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

ADVERTISING FEES

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	or \$100 for 4 issues

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

CREDITS

Illustrations on pages 14 and 24 by Virginia Dickinson. Photos by Lyman Gilmore.

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 May 10. Please e-mail your article to: Lyman Gilmore at: l_gilmore@mcttelecom.com.

DOWNSTAIRS AT THE REVIVAL SHOP

Laura Akerley

The Revival Shop is beginning its 18th year in the business of selling quality used clothing. We are still in the same location as when the shop first opened in March of 1992, in the basement of the First Presbyterian Church.

During those 18 years the shop has been run solely by volunteers, and some of the current workers have been with us since the shop first opened its doors. Such dedication! We have been blessed with dozens of folks who have donated their time and talents to help make the shop such a good place to work and a valuable resource for the church and our community. We are also very thankful for the community members and friends who have donated and consigned clothing all of these years. Without these donations, we wouldn't be in business. Thank you to everyone for your valuable contributions.

If you haven't been down for awhile, please come and visit. Sheila Nichols implemented some wonderful changes at the shop. We now have more space and the entire shop has had a facelift. A huge thank you to Sheila for all of her hard work, energy, and creativity.

Though it's still winter outside, Spring has sprung at the Revival Shop. Come browse and check out the Spring and Summer clothing that we are now getting out on the racks. Did you know that we always have half-price items and a dollar rack? Come check out our deals.

If you have donations or consignment items, please note that we are not accepting any winter clothing at this time.

Our hours remain as follows: 3rd Thursday of the month, 5:30-7:30 pm. (Come enjoy the community supper and stop down to visit.) Fridays, 10 am to 1 pm and Saturdays, 10 am to 3 pm.

Keep an eye out for special sales and interesting events this Spring and Summer. If you have any questions or are interested in volunteering, please call 588-2209

Happy Spring!



HAVE YOU SEEN WHAT'S NEW THIS WEEK?

The Revival Shop

Gently-Used Clothing for the whole Family

HOURS

3rd Thursday • 5:30 – 7:30 pm
(during the Community Suppers)

Friday • 10 am – 1 pm

Saturday • 10 am – 3 pm

Presbyterian Church, Main St, Antrim • 588-2209

THE MONADNOCK PAPER MILLS

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

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Scott R. Lester, Chief

The Antrim Police Department would like to express its support for the town during this difficult financial time. We are all feeling the affects of rising costs in our personal lives as well as the affects of budget cuts in our professional lives. I want to assure our community that your police officers are doing their best to reduce spending while continuing to provide a professional level of police services.

Over the last few months I have spoken with many people about the costs associated with police service and "just how busy is the small town of Antrim." I want to take this opportunity to provide you with our statistics for a recent three-month period. During the months of November 2009 through January 2010, the Antrim Police Department responded to 952 Calls for Service, investigated 65 criminal complaints, and made 63 arrests. A wide range of criminal offences have been committed with varying levels of severity.

Not all of our work shows up in the newspapers. Aside from the activity listed above, officers complete many other tasks throughout their workday. Each Call for Service and Arrest and Investigation requires documentation and follow-up. Several hours of the officers' work week are taken up by writing reports, answering phone calls, conducting interviews, answering questions from citizens, and providing mediation and/or guidance in domestic disputes. Often the less serious crimes take up the majority of our time.

While there are days when officers are responding from call to call, often they have the opportunity to go out on patrol. During these times, the officers have several assigned responsibilities. First and foremost, I believe in a proactive police department, and the visibility of a cruiser in itself will reduce crimes. Our officers enforce traffic laws in high traffic areas and places where we receive multiple complaints, conduct vacant property and business checks, inspect for roadway safety hazards, and patrol remote areas as well as active neighborhoods.

There is no typical day for an officer, and I cannot list all that we do, but this is an overview of our most common activities. I hope it provides you with an idea of how active and necessary our current staff is in providing Antrim with a professional level of police service.

Finally, I would like to mention that the town has done a great deal of work on preliminary study and development of plans for a new police station. Although we are not presenting a request at this time, I ask for your continued support as the need for a new police station remains a top priority. ☙

SELECT BOARD

Steve Schacht, Chairman

2009 saw many changes and challenges in Antrim, including several at the Town Office. Neal Cass resigned as Town Administrator to take a new position in a nearby town, and we wish him well. It has been our pleasure to welcome Galen Stearns as our new Town Administrator. Galen comes to us from Windham, New Hampshire, bringing with him the knowledge and experience of sixteen years of town and municipal government management as a selectmen.

The Highway Department has been greatly affected by change as Bob Varnum, Antrim's road agent for 25 years, decided to play a bit more golf and retired. Bob has done so much for the town we can only send him our thanks, wish him well, and tell him he will be missed. Stepping up to fill the position vacated by Bob, was Clark (Chip) Craig, III. Chip was already a member of the highway department, and we are pleased to see him continue in his new position as Road Agent. We look forward to working together in 2010. The Highway Department also experienced great sorrow with the recent passing of Steve Blood. Steve will be missed, and our thoughts remain with his family. We have filled the two positions created by the promotion of Chip Craig and the death of Steve Blood.

The biggest change and challenge the town has experienced is its severe financial crisis, including a \$1.2 million dollar deficit. Galen Stearns joined us at a very difficult time, and with his help and the help of many others, we have been able to identify our financial problems, develop a plan to correct these problems, and—hopefully move forward to improve our procedures and financial status. We thank all Antrim residents for attending our meetings, asking questions, working toward solutions, and pulling together as we become a better and stronger town.

In 2009 we completed the North Main Street bridge with plans to complete the Water Street bridge in the spring of 2010.

The Town Planning and Zoning Boards have had a busy year as well. We thank Paul Vasques for the guidance and assistance he gave the planning board last year, and we welcomed Peter Moore to his new position as part-time Town Planner. Both the Planning and Zoning Boards have been busy throughout the year reviewing and finalizing regulations as well as dealing with applications for a cell tower and MEP tower. These are contentious issues that have brought many residents to meetings where they listen to and express competing viewpoints. We thank all for their ideas and commitment. That is what Antrim is all about. ☙

ST PATRICK'S DAY CONCERT • MAR 12

Dana Center, St Anselm College

Pogey and Cara

Celtic Music

Community Bus leaves 6:30 returns 11:30 pm

FREE MOVIES • MARCH

Town Hall

March 4: "The Invention of Lying" (PG-13) • 7 pm

March 5: "Where the Wild Things Are" (PG) • 8 pm

March 6: "Ponyo" (G • 4 pm)

deciders. If you haven't made up your mind yet, here are some things you should consider.

1. The budget. At the deliberative session on Feb. 3, the district budget was reduced by \$100,000 in a two-part motion. The first part of that motion asked the school board to eliminate a \$150,000 line item for new basal readers for elementary students; the second part added \$50,000 back into the budget to be used for pay raises for non-CVEA employees, including support staff and maintenance workers.

The budget now stands at \$43,698,819 and that's the figure you'll be asked to approve on March 9. The default budget (the one used if the proposed budget fails) is \$43,543,965. In other words, about \$150,000 separates the two budgets.

A vote against the budget won't do much to lower your taxes. And finding another place to cut this budget is going to be tough for the school board.

2. The bond. This isn't last year's bond vote in different clothing. Several new issues are at play, and voters need to look beyond the \$4.9 million price tag to fully understand this article.

First, this is a five-year project and the district is applying for state building aid. Our current building bonds (one retiring this year and another in two years) receive 55 cents back for every dollar spent. In addition, the district's new financing rate will be about 3 percent and the current construction market offers other savings.

As has been reported in the news, the N.H. Legislature is considering a moratorium on the state building aid starting June 30th. If ConVal voters approve this bond in March, the district will beat that deadline. And while there is no absolute assurance that our state aid will continue at 55 cents on the dollar, both offi-

cials at the Department of Education and local lawmakers say the state is firm in its intention to honor any project approved before the deadline.

The bond article calls for authority to borrow up to \$4.9 million. Our aid application, which has preliminary approval, covers about \$8.1 million in construction and capital improvements projects over the life of the bond. If the state's reimbursement rate remains in place, ConVal taxpayers should pay less than \$4 million for \$8.1 million in projects.

The \$8.1 million covers: \$3.7 million to bring the gym wing up to federal standards for handicap access and Title IX compliance; \$900,000 for a new alternative education structure to replace the current portable classrooms; \$400,000 for code compliance throughout the 40-year-old building; \$145,000 for upgrades to the high school's electrical service; and about \$2.3 million for the next five years of the district's Capital Improvement Plan, including roof replacements, heating upgrades and ventilation work at other school buildings.

3. There are 11 articles on the district warrant, including two so-called "housekeeping" amendments to the Articles of Agreement. Those changes will tighten up the wording for the sections mentioned, but will not change anything of significance. Copies of the full warrant are available at www.conval.edu and at town hall.

Your school board representatives urge you to call or e-mail with any questions you might have. You can reach Lauren Kirkpatrick at 588-3941 and lkirkpatrick@conval.edu or Mary Allen at 588-2742 and mallen@conval.edu.

Informational meetings are being planned for early March. Check the Ledger-Transcript or the town website for more information. ☈

HOW ALABAMA FARM GOT ITS NAME

Ed Winslow

The present buildings at Alabama farm have lasted twice as long as any of the three earlier structures. The first was built by Daniel Miltimore around 1780. Until 1792 there was no meeting hall in Antrim and church services were held in various houses. Miltimore's turn came in 1785, and the Cochrane Town History reports that "the little dwelling being crowded full, the floor gave way and dropped them all, minister, people, furniture and Bible, into the cellar."

Caleb Blanchard acquired the property in 1820 and built a more substantial structure, but it was destroyed by a fire one Sunday in 1840 while the family was in church. The fire was caused by Caleb's grandson, my great grandfather, Charles Pratt, who had put some wood ashes with hot embers into a wooden barrel before leaving for church.

Another house was built on the same foundation, but it was destroyed in 1893 by a fire caused by lightning. At that time, the property was owned by Charles Pratt's first cousin, from whom Pratt bought it and built the present house and barn in 1894. At about that time, Antrim's former Governor David H. Goodell persuaded Pratt to join a syndicate organized to explore for oil in Alabama. It was a bust and Pratt lost his entire investment. He allowed as how he was going to get something from Alabama for his money, and so he named the place "Alabama Farm."

My grandmother, C. Louise Smith, one of Charles Pratt's children, inherited the farm from him in 1903. Having a 19th century Boston puritanical morality, she believed drinking alcohol, card playing, and dancing all to be sinful. I have to assume that she considered speculative investments also to be sinful and that she couldn't bear to have a tainted name attached to her home. In any event, her answer to the naming question always was that in (American) Indian language "Alabama" means 'here we rest.' Although that is correct, it had nothing to do with the naming of Alabama Farm. ☈

SKI TRIP • MARCH 17

Waterville Valley

Community Bus leaves 7:00 am
returns 5:30 pm

MARCH 20

Town Hall

Contra Dance

7 – 10:00 pm • Doors open at 6:15 pm

MEMORIES OF A SMALL TOWN TELEPHONE OPERATOR

Nina Harding

We take for granted the telephones in our homes, offices, and pockets. But more than fifty years ago telephones were a vital part of Antrim's culture. They were a source for gossip, eavesdropping on party lines, broadcasting emergencies, and passing on critical information to people who needed to know. At the center of it all was the switchboard operator who made the calling process possible.

I was asked by Lyman Gilmore to write something for *The Limrik* about the telephones in Antrim and some of the colorful operators who ran them. He provided some historical information. However, much of what I am about to tell you is from memory. After all, I was one of those operators.

The Contoocook Valley Telephone Company history is long and interesting. It was chartered in 1894 and sold to New England Telephone and Telegraph in 1896 when a line was set up connecting Hillsborough and Antrim. Our first telephone was in Martin's Pharmacy in what was the Town Hall block, first door up from the town hall entrance. Three years later the exchange reverted back to the Contoocook Valley Telephone Company.

Over the years, the switchboard moved around Antrim. Three years after being in the pharmacy, it went to the Perkins house at 10 Summer Street (now Julie Utters), and shortly later it was located at 52 Main Street. Susie Swett, Archie Swett's sister, was the operator/manager.

At that time there were only 65 subscribers. By 1919 subscriptions had more than doubled to 176. A 1924 newspaper article reported that the exchange had moved to last place in size among telephone exchanges, and there it would stay until the system changed to a dial system in 1963.

Here I have a question: my sister worked as an operator for 23 cents an hour and used to say that the switchboard was in Dr. Dearborn's house, which is now the parking lot of the present-day Antrim Market. She told me Mrs. Dearborn's sons, Benton and Edmund, helped her operate the switchboard part time. Is it possible that this was at another house before the switchboard moved to its final location on the northwest corner of Summer and Main Streets next to what is now Rick and Diane's Pizza Restaurant at 60 Main Street?

The exchange handled calls not only for Antrim, but Bennington and Francestown as well. Calls to all three towns were local calls; Peterborough was a long distance toll center. There were a few operator/managers over the years. Sadly, a newspaper clipping only mentioned the two times Dagmar George held that position. For a short time Ida and Ben Butterfield lived in the telephone apartment, and Ida was in charge. Elsie Mosley was the operator from 1935-1936.

Dates are really not my strong point, but Dagmar was in charge from 1941 to 1945 and again from 1959 to 1963 when the exchange became a dial system. Jane Pratt Hill was the operator from 1945 to 1959. I worked for Jane during the

1950's when it was so busy that the telephone company had to install a two-person switchboard.

Jane and her parents moved to the telephone apartment when the Jameson block was taken down to make room for the 1st National Grocery store, the location of Wayno's and now Antrim Market. The Pratts for many years had run a restaurant at the south end of that block.

I really hesitate to mention the names of the many operators because I am sure I don't remember everyone. In any event, here are a few I do recall: Jean Clark, Sally Martel, Donna Stacey, Sandra Dutton, Donna Peat, and Patricia Higgins of Hancock. If you know of others, please let me know.

I do remember that Jane Pratt's mother covered the nightshift, catching what sleep she could on a cot in the office. During the winter she would get calls often at night when Monadnock Paper Mill called in its help to keep machinery operating because of the threat of "shackle" ice, whatever that was.

The switchboard was a central information center for everyone. If we couldn't answer a question, we usually knew where the answer could be found. Often, when a local doctor was making house calls, he would tell us where he would be in case there were incoming calls for him.

I know that the system we used has technical names, but they escape me, so I will use my own terminology. The operator wore headphones and faced a board of numbers that would drop down when a party rang in. Before us were two wired plugs, one in front of the other, and a button switch. We would plug in the back line and open the switch and say pleasantly, "Number, please?" Upon hearing the line requested, we would plug in the front line to that party and ring the number with the front switch. Early on we had many rural lines with long numbers. For instance, for line "11-16," after plugging in the front line into 11 we would have to ring one long and six short. Of course we had no control of how many people would pick up the phone to listen in on that line. Parties were supposed to ring off when through, but most times they didn't ring off so the operator had to check on the line to see if the call was completed. This gave customers the idea someone was listening, but for the most part the operator was too busy, or not interested. After all, we had a weekly local newspaper where we could read the news.

All long distance calls were passed on to Peterborough or Concord. We had to write out tickets to keep track of the calls.

Also, the telephone office was responsible for blowing the fire whistle. When we got a call we would blow the number of times designated for that area of town; north, south, east or west, or out of the Precinct, each had a special signal. Then the drops would come down. "Where's the fire?" the callers

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From an Antrim man

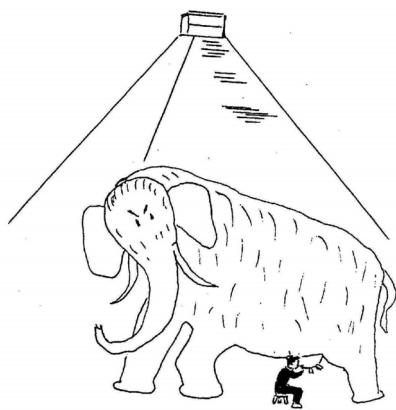
HEADLINES OF HISTORY

By Don Gilman

Reviewed by Dick Winslow

Those who would be intrigued by a witty, informed, view of our Earth's history beginning 600 million years B.C. and ending with Hitler's defeat in 1945 A.D., might be rewarded by a visit to Tuttle Library to see the late Don Gilman's *HEADLINES OF HISTORY*. This book delivers its message through 88 amusing illustrations, 74 maps, 3500 headlines such as "134 A.D., Teutonic knights buy North Estonia from Denmark for 19,000 marks," and many editorial comments, including "There are billions and billions of stars and planets, more than we can ever see with the most powerful telescopes because many of them are moving away faster than the speed of light!" Besides all this, there is an index of about 4000 items, all carefully alphabetized, for example "Babylon; Babylonia; Bacchus; Bach; Bacon, Francis; Bacon, Roger; Bactria..."

To give a sense of the fun in the book, I have included several of the 88 Illustrations, every one of which includes the same black-suited, blithe, little man in a beret:



200: Mayans domesticate mastodons

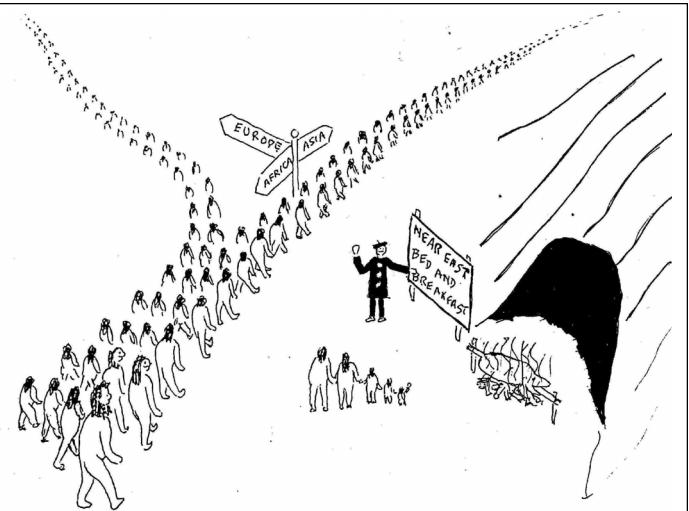


1815: Wellington defeats Napoleon at Waterloo

Don Gilman and his wife, the late Doris Gilman, lived on Smith Road in Antrim from the mid 1970s to the mid 1980s, moving here from Massachusetts where he had been president of a manufacture company; he died in 1987. After he

retired, his writing of this book was an absorbing passion. He was a delightful man who combined intense concern about the future of mankind with wit, including the ability to laugh at himself, as demonstrated by this story. An MIT graduate, he had done so poorly in biochemistry that his professor told him, "Gilman, you're the worst student I've ever had. I'm going to give you the lowest possible passing grade but you must promise that in the entire rest of your life, you'll never again have anything to do with bio chemistry." Twenty-five years later at a class reunion, this same professor was the guest of honor. When Don greeted him, the professor could not remember Don's name. "But professor," said Don, "you told me I was the worst student you ever had." "GILMAN!" roared the professor.

Dozens of editorial comments tucked in among immense lists of headlines reveal the seriousness with which Gilman wrote this History. Examples: "There are a great many millions more microscopic creatures on earth than creatures visible to the naked eye. And there are a great many millions more under water than on land." "Greece was the first great country in which economic vigor enabled scholarship and things of the spirit to flourish." "During the 5th and 6th centuries AD, the migrating and invading hordes were propelled in some cases by famine, in some cases by warlike neighbors, in some cases seeking conquest and plunder; in all cases they were seeking a better lifestyle." "Given a reasonably favorable environment, a tribe or a nation multiplies so fast that a relatively small tribe or nation will need a surprisingly large amount of land over the course of 20 generations = 400 to 500 years."



1,000,000 B.C.: Man starts migration from Africa to Near East, Europe and Asia

An important thread running through the book is Gilman's concern about the earth's ability to feed and care for an ever increasing population. Gilman clearly agrees with the late-18th century British economist Thomas Malthus who wrote, "Populations when unchecked tend to increase in a geomet-

continued on next page

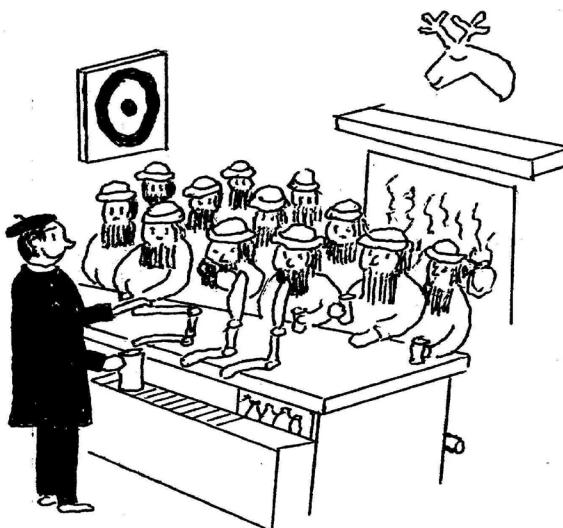
ric ratio while means of subsistence tend to increase only in an arithmetic ratio, thus causing overcrowding, hunger, disease, poverty and war." Gilman observes, "Had this wisdom been heeded, there would not have occurred nearly so much hunger, poverty, war and turmoil." Gilman wrote this 25 years ago. Recently I heard a disturbing radio program discussing how world populations are overwhelming the earth's water supply and suggesting that possession of water will soon enrich some the way possession of oil currently does. At present, over a billion people have inadequate clean drinking water and over 2 billion people live with dangerously inadequate sanitation systems.

A word about the 74 maps. They are presented chronologically beginning 600 million years B.C. and ending in 1948 A.D. The first half dozen maps deal with the earth's geology but thereafter maps deal variously with the spread of mankind, successive great empires (Babylonian, Egyptian, Persian, British, etc.) and various important invasions and conquests, including those of Germany and Japan in World War II. Of interest to students of the bible is a map showing St. Paul's journeys around the Mediterranean basin during the years 54 to 65 A.D., indicating stopping places such as Corinth, Ephesus, Philippi, Rome, Athens, etc.



45 A.D.: St. Paul starts on his journeys with Barnabas

Every one of the book's illustrations faithfully shows the little man wearing a beret—except the very last one on page 276. This final illustration shows our little man not wearing the beret, but holding it in his hand out of respect. He is standing before a huge plaque which lists the numbers of deaths caused by World War II. The plaque identifies numbers for 13 countries, which total nearly 60 million killed and 180 million wounded. On the next page, Gilman editorializes about so monstrous a loss of human life. "The history of mankind has been a history of warfare and the history of warfare has been the continual development of new and more devastating weapons, from spears to the phalanx to the long bow to battleships to intercontinental missiles." He then observes that defensive measures also continually become more effi-



6,000 B.C.: Beer invented in Babylon

cient, capable of destroying in a flash the weapons of attack—from the air, from the sea, on land. He expresses hope that technology will be able to render futile the effectiveness of war, leading nations to spend their money not on war but on "the feeding, housing, health, education and...gainful employment of their citizens, so that we may all, world wide, continue forever to hear the music of Mozart."

QR



Building Materials

Mon.—Fri. 7 to 5
Sat. 7—1
Closed Sundays

**78 Smith Road
P.O. Box 148
Antrim, NH 03440
603-588-2139**

their importance to the Food Pantry but also for their personal generosity and kindness. Crista knows them especially well since she grew up right across the street from them and remembers, as a child, spending almost as much time in the Hugron home as in her own. Her presentation words were laced with affection and, finally, tears. As one of those present observed a week later, "there wasn't a dry eye in the house."

A ministry of the Antrim Baptist Church, the Pantry strives to meet the emergency food needs of between 40 and 80 individuals every week. It has been in operation since 1987 when a disastrous fire leveled the large Arthur Proctor house, at that time an apartment building standing next to the Maplehurst Inn where the Post Office is now located. Dozens of people were suddenly homeless, and the Baptist Church became active in providing temporary shelter and food for them. The Food Pantry has been housed in the Church basement ever since.

The Pantry, which is open every Saturday 10 AM to Noon, might be described as thirty-four shelves holding some 4000 food items in a room so cramped that materials spill over into a hallway. Strict order prevails, however, with meticulously labeled shelves containing neat rows of cans and packages: vegetables, fruits, pastas, cereals, soups, various condiments, cake mixes, peanut butter, baked beans, juice drinks,

various broths, gravies, and the like. The room also has a small freezer for frozen foods.

Tending this room—not only distributing groceries, but also constantly opening food cartons, recycling cardboard, reloading the shelves, and keeping the place spic and span—is the work of Sonny Hugron. Each of the Church's six Deacons, Dawne Hugron, Sandy Fuller, Hope Phillips, Linda Wood, Diane Seavy, and Tamara Pushee, assumes Food Pantry responsibility for a two-month stretch of any given year.

When a person comes to the Food Pantry requesting help, he or she fills out a simple application which asks for name and address and reasons for the need, such as Out of Work, Disabled, Homeless, etc. The application form also includes a list of available foods from which the applicant can make choices. The amount of food an applicant is able to receive in a week is governed by weight: 1 person can take 13 lbs, 2 persons 20 lbs, 3 persons 25 lbs and so forth.

People needing food beyond a temporary emergency period are asked to complete a more detailed application, following which a decision is made "based on the purpose of this Pantry." Perhaps the spirit in which such decisions are handled is suggested by a sentence on the application form itself: "The Lord has blessed us with these resources and we are glad to share them with you."

Where does the food come from? Some is purchased, and some donated by individuals and stores. Those who wish to give money for food purchases may do so through Dawne Hugron at the Church or at her home (588-3890). Checks should be made out to Antrim Baptist Church Food Pantry and mailed to the church, attention Dawne Hugron. Pastor Charles Boucher makes trips to Manchester to buy groceries at the N.H. Food Bank. Dawne and Sonny also buy at Market Basket in Rindge and Hannaford's in Keene, as well as at other area stores when prices are favorable.

Donations of food may be dropped off at Tuttle Library, the Laconia Bank in Antrim, the Presbyterian Church, the Grapevine, Place in the Woods, as well as the Baptist Church itself. This past autumn, there were food-collection drives by both the Antrim Boy Scouts led by Brian Biehl, and by Great Brook School organized by Ellen Kidd. The Scouts' drive yielded 1500 food items and the Great Brook School drive 1100 items, all of which were delivered organized by categories: soup, gravies, vegetables, etc. The Antrim Marketplace, Harlow's Pub and the Bagel Mill in Peterborough, and Shaw's in Hillsboro regularly donate food. Sonny and Dawne make weekly trips to Shaw's to pick up ever-so-welcome bread and cakes.

When I asked Dawne how food recipients respond to the process, she said that these are wonderful people who, as one would expect, are grateful and often say so, also frequently offering to lend a hand. When I asked whether Food Pantry services had ever been abused or ripped off, she replied "sometimes." Then she added, "we try not to judge. We try not to say 'no'."



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A WINTER WALK ACROSS THE LILY POND

Charles Butterfield

Wearing new, high-tech snowshoes and steadying our septuagenarian selves with ski poles, Ben Pratt and I walked across the Lily Pond on the overcast, cold day that finished off the old year. The snowshoes were not essential. Nowhere was there more than a foot of snow. Even so, aggressive steel crampons under the boot harnesses proved useful on the steep slopes we crossed on our way to and from the pond, and they kept us upright as we walked over acres of windswept ice.

In the woods, the protected snow layer had crusted, freezing in place like fossil tracks of turkey, squirrel, snowshoe hare, deer, moose, and fox (or coyote). Under hemlocks the snow was dotted with chewed cones and the tips of branches, crumbs from a red squirrel's breakfast. Where patches of hardened snow lay trampled under a grove of hemlocks, we surmised that deer had herded up for warmth through the night.

We knew we were not going to startle or witness wildlife on this hike. Our snowshoes crashing through the crust made so much noise we were obliged to stand still to talk. Modern snowshoes are metal tubing and plastic marvels, but the traction rails and torsion decks amplify the sound of every crunching step. We announced ourselves, giving fair warning to all the woodland creatures that we were heading for the Lily Pond.

Some very cold days and nights following the Christmas thaw prepared the Lily Pond for us with a good three inches of smooth, opaque ice, wide expanses of it swept clean of snow. The pond itself is not very large, its surface less than an acre. (Antrim's early settlers called it Little Pond.) It is lopsidedly surrounded by extensive peatland, perhaps six acres in area. We found the margins of the pond proper clearly marked by a berm of low woody shrubs, lambkill and leather leaf predominantly, the heath of stiff branches extending a couple of feet above the ice. While clumps of shrubbery and old tree snags pockmark the ice over the bog, the Lily Pond itself is completely devoid of any emergent plant life. In summer, water lilies carpet the shallow water; the original pond, however, is completely open, suggesting that it is so deep that no plants can take root.

On ice we were at liberty to wander over every part of the Lily Pond proper and its surrounding wetland. We visited three beaver lodges. One had been vacant for years; another had a scattering of newly gnawed sticks on top indicating some amount of activity around it. The third lodge was obviously in current use. Gnawed and debarked limbs covered the top and lay frozen in the thin ice at the entrance. Beaver had opened their ice skylight just days before we arrived. Through this frozen window we could see the still-green foliage in the winter pantry beneath us. Had we waited for a while we might have seen hungry beavers raiding their larder.

But we had other things to explore. We climbed on the granite outcropping rising above the bog ice ten or a dozen feet. Here there are large pine, hemlock, and spruce trees where the soil is deep enough, and dwarf spruce and low and

creeping shrubbery where it is thin. The island was mostly swept clear of snow, allowing us to spot an informal stone fireplace, the remains of a summer campsite.

As we left the island it began to snow. The sky had been leaden all morning, and there was a forecast of light snow. The precipitation quickly turned into a heavy, serious squall. After a little more exploring along the vegetated edge, imagining the turtles and frogs asleep in the warm mud below, we left the pond for the shelter of the woods and made our way up onto Hedgehog Ledges. These ledges are steep, rising a hundred feet above the south rim of the pond. On this trek we found more signs of moose and snowshoe hare. At Skip's Lookout (memorializing Gordon Sudbury III), we might have had a long view of the pond, but the falling snow obscured any vista. We could barely make out that there was a pond of ice below.

From the peak of the ledges we picked up an ATV trail and followed its winding course through land protected by the Harris Center and then across land formerly belonging to Butterfield Farm. The trail brought us to the well-worn path long known to us as "the lane" that runs through the woods from Congreve Road on Route 31 to Gregg Lake. (The lane was once the only road from Clinton to the lake.) We walked the lane to Ben's house, shed the snowshoes and the thick snow on our coats, and enjoyed steaming bowls of Diane's rich pea soup and a nice Burgundy.

Ben and I spent boyhood days exploring these woods, these ledges, and the rim of the Lily Pond (being repeatedly cautioned by our elders that there was quicksand there). Once again we two, our years mounting faster than seems decent, walked across the Lily Pond, bringing Ralph Waldo Emerson's words to mind. "In the woods, too," he wrote, "a man casts off his years, as the snake his slough, and at what period soever of life is always a child. In the woods is perpetual youth." ☙

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would want to know. We tried very hard to answer the firemen's numbers first, because there were no signals for them. Often, party lines would hear these line-rings and listen in on the line.

I remember that I was working one Saturday which was supposed to be a quiet day. I had a case of laryngitis. A call came in that the Sides House, just above my present home on Pleasant Street, was on fire. I answered the first ring. Then—you guessed it—I lost my voice. Jane, who was up the street on an errand, made good time getting to the switchboard to take over the busy board from the *silent operator*.

Every noon we had to test the fire alarm. It also was the operator's job to blow the no-school signal. When some old timers get together they talk about when they were young their parents told them they were supposed to come home when either the Goodell shop or the fire whistle blew.

There are many interesting stories that operators could tell, and no, they are not gossip. One Saturday I was on duty and things were quiet. The Boy Scout Camp Sachem and the girls' Camp Birchmere on Gregg Lake had telephone lines mostly used for inter-camp calls, ringing their own numbers between the camps. Suddenly the camps started making frantic calls to each other. I thought nothing of it until I saw a very young scout with a backpack walking by the office. I put two and two together and I broke into their calls and said, "This is the operator. Are you missing a boy?" "Yes," was the reply, with much relief. I called the boy into the office and talked with him until they came to take him back to camp. It turned out the boy was homesick and was walking back to his house in Lexington, Massachusetts!

Another incident related by Edwin Roberts in his book *New Hampshire Stories* concerned his coming home for Thanksgiving from Wesleyan College in Connecticut. He called his parents to tell them to meet his train in Greenfield, Massachusetts, but when he got to Greenfield there was no "red 1953 Ford with two eager parents." After a long wait he decided to call home. Making a toll call from a pay phone wasn't easy in those days because there were more operators involved. Finally, they got Jane on the line. His folks weren't home, Jane informed the calling operator. "Excuse me," the calling operator said. Jane said, "They're not home. I saw them drive past the office about three o'clock." Jane asked to talk to Edwin. His operator said, "are you willing to accept this collect call?" Jane said yes. Jane asked him, "So how are you? Where are you?" He explained. "Hold on," she said. In a moment she came back on. "They are on their way. They were waiting at the other station at East Northfield. Gotta go. Bye."

One story I often tell is when South Main Street by the Goodell Company was being widened. I got a call from Sylvia Ashford who had sent her five-year-old son Sonny to the store for a loaf of bread. He had been gone for almost an hour. (That was in the good old days when you didn't have the

worries about kids we have today.) I told Sylvia that everything was fine. Sonny was stopping at every stone and pile of dirt at the construction site to investigate, a very thorough sidewalk engineer! I called Sylvia back when, a short time later, he went by the office carrying a loaf of bread, swinging it by his side. I'm sure some slices were unrecognizable when he got home.

This was a time when the town was connected. Oh, there were those who ranted about gossip coming from the office, but that was not what it was all about. It was a time when there was always a friendly voice and a helpful person at the other end of the line. Today we get impersonal menus. Time moves on, but at least we have our memories.

We often say, "the good old days." Not all were good, but the fact that you could send a little one to the store up Main Street, alone, knowing there was someone who would be watching, that was good! Just to hear a friendly voice on the phone when you rang in was a treasure that so many people don't have today. ☙

WE HAVE POWER

Dr. Tom Dowling, Veterinarian

Power tools. Ya gotta love 'em. Whether its in the shop, on the job, or in the kitchen, there is no disputing the fact that mechanically powered devices make our work less tedious and our lives a lot easier.

A few months ago we powered-up our practice at Great Brook Vet Clinic with brand new, state-of-the art powered dental equipment, and it's cleaning pets' teeth like a white tornado. The system we installed recently is called the iM3, and we and our clients have been very impressed with its performance.

The iM3 consists of an ultrasonic scaler that oscillates at an amazing 4200 rpms and both low speed and high speed hand pieces for polishing or sectioning teeth. When the unit is operating the clinic sounds just like your dentist's office, but smells much better due to the mint scented spray used with the equipment. We can even do root canals!

Most pets begin to develop periodontal or gum disease by the time they are about 12 to 18 months old. Over time, bacterial plaque or tartar creeps under the gumline causing loose teeth, abscesses, or even systemic disease in major organs such as the liver, kidneys, and heart. Pet owners don't usually take their pets' dental health very seriously until they themselves or their family and friends begin to complain of the pet's bad breath. By that time serious changes are already happening in the pet's mouth that not only compromise the pet's quality of life, but jeopardize their longevity as well.

Good pet dental care is just as important as vaccinations against infectious disease and parasite control. Regular dental check-ups and appropriate treatment can add more years to your pet's life and more life to your pet's years. ☙

ANTRIM HISTORICAL SOCIETY SPRING PROGRAMS

Missy Taylor

On Sunday, April 18, the Historical Society will present *Meet Eleanor Roosevelt*, a one woman theater piece performed by Elena Dodd and directed by Josephine Lane. Eleanor Roosevelt was the first President's wife to hold press conferences, write a newspaper column, and travel widely. She was a leader and a revolutionary, a champion to the powerless and an advocate for universal human rights. She was admired by many and criticized by many. In *Meet Eleanor Roosevelt*, she steps out of history to share with frankness and humor some of the struggles and experiences of her extraordinary life. Elena Dodd's portrayal explores her years as a mother, wife, and First Lady through World War II, bringing Mrs. Roosevelt's distinctive speech and dynamic personality to life. The program will be held on **Sunday, April 18 at 3 pm** at the Antrim Presbyterian Church and is sponsored by the New Hampshire Humanities Council.

Pete Martel will lead May's Program on the *USS Antrim*. In the spring of 1981, our town was contacted by the commanding officer of the *USS Antrim*, the twelfth ship of the Oliver Hazard Perry class of guided-missile frigates, named for Rear Admiral Richard Nott Antrim (1907–1969). The crew of the ship was interested in developing a relationship with the town, an idea that was met with great enthusiasm by the townspeople. Funds were raised to send three representatives, all Navy veterans, to the commissioning of the ship on September 26, 1981 in Seattle. Since they ended up paying their own way, the funds raised were instead used for a town wide celebration in July of 1982 when the crew would be visiting Antrim. The town threw itself into preparing for the visit, organizing a parade with the Keene Legion Band and floats, running raffles, printing T-shirts, arranging housing for a hundred crew members in local homes and preparing a tremendous buffet. A softball game was held, a talent show provided the entertainment and the Fire Department held a muster, among many other activities. As the captain of the ship noted, Antrim proved it was "a small town with a big heart." Pete Martel has kept a well documented record of the relationship with the ship and its crew, a relationship that resulted in many lasting friendships. The program will be held on **Sunday, May 16 at 3 pm** at the Antrim Presbyterian Church.

The Stone Church: in early December, the members of the Historical Society voted overwhelmingly to accept the gift of the old Stone Church on Route 31 from Jim and Carol Rymes and the Stone Church Foundation. The Board is now in the process of finalizing the details of the transfer and gathering estimates from contractors to compile a schedule for restoration of various aspects of the building. We are very grateful for the terrific response to this endeavor and thank all who came out on a snowy December morning to tour the building and express their interest and support. Many of those

present made excellent suggestions, Nancy Knowles demonstrated the wonderful acoustics of the sanctuary by leading us in song, and lists of volunteers were drawn up. This will be a major undertaking for the Society and we will need the support of the entire community to preserve this important part of Antrim's history.

For up-to-date information on programs and Historical Society activities, please watch for announcements in the newspapers and on the town's website at www.antrimnh.org. Historical Society programs are usually presented on the third Sunday of the month at the Antrim 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 an individual, \$20 for a family. For more information about joining, please contact Liz Robertson at 588-2562. 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. We hope to see you April 18 to "meet Eleanor Roosevelt."

¤

LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD (SINGING) MEN (AND LADIES)!

Sharon Dowling, Music Director
Presbyterian Church

Do you enjoy singing with a choir, but don't have time for a major commitment? The First Presbyterian Church invites interested people who have some choral experience (ability to read music is a plus but not necessary) and would like to join in some fabulous music for Palm Sunday and Easter. We have an eclectic, moving, and fun repertoire—old stuff to contemporary—and extra voices for these special holidays are always appreciated.

No late night rehearsals! No need to rent a tux! No tickets to sell! If you are at all interested in giving our small choir of joyful and dedicated singers a helping hand, and would like to experience once again the camaraderie of a chorus, please call me at home for information (525-4280).

¤



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ANSWERS TO THE HISTORY QUIZ FROM THE DECEMBER LIMRIK

Eric Tenney

Here are the answers to the questions that I presented in the previous Limrik. These answers I know are correct, but there may be other answers that I have not discovered.

1. *What was the current village of Antrim known as by most people until the last 50 years?* I am sure many of you found this easy: South Antrim or South Antrim Village

2. *For what purpose was the original Antrim Precinct formed and when did this occur?* The South Antrim Fire Precinct was formed in 1893. Gradually this entity became just the "Antrim Precinct." Municipal water was added at a later date, and the Fire Dept was transferred to the town in 1959.

3. *When Antrim was incorporated as a town, what were the names of the towns that bordered it?* "Society land" (east & south), Deering (east), Hillsboro (north), Campbell's Gore (present day Windsor-north), Stoddard (west), and Packersfield (Nelson-west).

4. *Where was what was known as the "cucumber" shop located, and how did it receive that name?* The Cucumber Shop became known when the brick factory building was built and operated by Goodell Co. on Water Street. The employees grew cucumbers on the land in back of the building.

5. *When was the vote taken to have a municipal wastewater treatment system constructed in Antrim?* The vote for the project was taken in 1978. Actually there were two votes. Because of the size of the bond, a 2/3 vote was required which failed the first time. At that meeting a motion was made to reconsider at an adjourned meeting two months later. The issue was that non-users were against the whole town picking up the payments. A compromise was reached in which the town paid 50% of the bond and the users paid 50% of the bond. The effect of this was users paid about 70% and non-users paid 30% of the bond.

6. *Before the railroad was built, what was Depot Street known as?* Originally it known as the "road to Deering" as Bennington did not exist until 1842. The original owners of the present Tenney Farm were the Baldwin family who owned the farm for ninety years. At some point in the 1800's the road became known as Baldwin Street.

7. *By 1800 how many different ways on town roads could you travel "by horseback" to Hancock?* One way was via High Street the same as today. Just past the Hancock town line a road left High Street (no longer visible) and ended at the present Verney Farm in Bennington. Another way was to take Pleasant Street to Bootman Road (no longer used) to Brimstone Corner Road. Brimstone Corner Road was established when Holt Hill Road around the north end of Gregg Lake was laid out. The present Middle Hancock Road was laid out in 1802 but was probably used before that date.

8. *In what building was the Antrim Reel Shop last located before going out of business?* The "cucumber shop."

9. *Where was the Colby Tavern located?* This tavern was on the 2nd New Hampshire Turnpike on the land now owned by the Forester family. The Colby Tavern was just up the hill a short distance from where you enter the turnpike today. (The 2nd New Hampshire is the last left turn on Route 202 North past the rest area and near the Hillsborough line.)

10. *If you look at a current map of the Antrim-Hancock town line, there is an irregularity in the line near Willard Pond. What caused this?* A farmer owned a farm on the slope of Bald Mountain. When Hancock was incorporated he petitioned legislature to include his farm in Hancock which was granted. Five years later he left the farm, but the boundary change has been in effect until today. ☙

GIRLS 7 TO 12—COME PLAY SOFTBALL!

Rick Davis (of Rick & Diane's Pizzeria)

If you have daughters 7 to 12 years old who might be interested in playing softball this spring, sign up with the Recreation Department by March 8. I'll be coaching again this year. And if your daughters want to learn "windmill pitching," bring them to the Middle School gym Tuesdays at 5:30 pm, or call me on my cell phone: 464-9915. These windmill-pitching clinics continue all year and are free.

This is Babe Ruth youth softball, and Antrim fields three teams: the 11 to 12 year old "Majors" which we sponsor, the 9 to 10 year old "Minors" sponsored by Officer Ryan Storro of the Police Department, and the "Youth League" for 7 and 8 year olds.

I started coaching girls softball back when our Angie and Jackie were 10 and 11, and as my daughters are now 32 and 33, I've been doing it over 20 years. I really enjoy coaching girls' softball, but I especially enjoy the challenge of teaching windmill pitching. It was clear to me twenty years ago that mastering the art of windmill pitching was the key to winning softball. If you come to Rick & Diane's Pizzeria, you can see all the trophies our teams have won over the years, as well as joy in the faces of the girls' photos. It has been a terrific ten years of Rick & Diane's softball teams, and we hope to have another ten.

So, girls, come join one of our teams, and you may be the next windmill pitching star for Rick & Diane's to play in a Monadnock Babe Ruth softball league, a tremendous opportunity for all the girls in this area. Hope to see you on the field or in the gym. ☙



ANTRIM SENIOR CENTER OFFERS A WEALTH OF ACTIVITIES

Sandy Snow

Say "bon voyage" to eight intrepid travelers from the Antrim Area Senior Center who embarked February 25 on a seven-day cruise of the southern Caribbean. Celebrity Cruise's 963-foot long Summit with approximately 2,000 guests, departed San Juan, Puerto Rico, February 27, sailing to St. Thomas, St. Croix, St. Kitts, Antigua and St. Lucia.

The travelers spent months planning and preparing for the cruise. Dian Campbell and her daughter Erin did their part to help the country's economic recovery, according to Dian, by going on a shopping spree in Nashua two weeks prior to their departure. They had already planned a snorkeling trip in the 80-degree water, a bike ride to compensate for the intake of gourmet dinners, and a trip to an active volcano.

When we return March 6, each well tanned but about five pounds heavier, it is likely plans will get underway for another cruise in 2011.

The senior center, which is open to seniors 55 or better from Antrim and nearby towns, offers much more than just cruises. We are an active group of seniors who don't think that sitting around is any fun. We thrive on keeping our minds and bodies as active as possible. Toward that end, we have an exercise program at 10 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Gerri Casaletto of Deering will teach a tap dancing exercise class on Mondays and Fridays after the regular exercise classes. Marguerite Roberts will offer a presentation in March of her and her late husband's experiences in Nigeria with the Peace Corp. The date and time of the presentation have not been finalized, but it will be open to the public regardless of age.

The center, working in conjunction with Pheasant Wood Care and Rehabilitation Center in Peterborough, offers a vital signs clinic once a month and a visit from their head physical therapist who offers tips on how to stay fit and overcome those annoying aches and pains we all experience. Pheasant Wood also has occasional presentations such as "The Benefits of Chocolate" and "The Benefits of Tea."

Pheasant Wood provides desserts on the second Tuesday of the month which coincides with the seniors' special home-cooked luncheons. Past lunches have included chicken parmesan, baked ham, and pot roast. The luncheon is open to all seniors 55 and better at a nominal cost of \$5 per person. Anyone interested in attending must sign up several days prior to the lunch. A sign-up sheet listing the menu for the upcoming meal is located at the Fellowship Hall in the Presbyterian Church.

Speaking of food, the center will host a breakfast on March 12 starting at about 9 a.m. The chefs will offer scrambled eggs, omelets, bacon, home fries, fruit salad, orange juice, and coffee. Price of admission is \$3 per person.

The center is not just about food and exercises. In December, Dick and Robin Loveland of Antrim taught seniors how to play bridge. Wednesdays are bridge days at the center. Anyone interested in learning how to play or in participating is invited to stop by the Fellowship Hall at about 10 a.m. Of course, we also play other card games such as hearts and cribbage. For those who aren't tempted by cards, there are always a jigsaw puzzle in progress and pleasant conversations.

As Spring approaches, the center will resume planning for its trips in the Recreation Department bus. Past trips have included attending Fisher Cats baseball games in Manchester, visiting the Christa McAuliffe Planetarium in Concord, cruising on Lake Sunapee, and traveling the Kancamagus Highway to view the fall foliage with a lunch stop at Hart's Turkey Farm in Meredith and an ice cream stop along the way. Trips fill up quickly and the bus can accommodate only 14 passengers. There is a nominal charge for the bus and any admission tickets.

If you haven't visited us, stop by for a cup of coffee and some delicious pastry prepared by the Campbells and Missy Taylor. Beyond the trips and the luncheons, there is no charge. We are open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information and upcoming activities and events, contact Sandy Snow at the church at 588-2209. But why not stop by?



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OPEN BARN AND DEMONSTRATION EVENT AT RAINY DAY FARM

Beth Merrill and Davi Penny

Are you interested in horses but are not sure how to get started? Does your child want to learn to ride, but you're afraid to let him/her do so? Beth Merrill at Rainy Day Farm on West Street in Antrim teaches students young and old how to be safe and confident with horses from the ground up using the Parelli Natural Horsemanship method. She and her students proudly announce an Open Barn and Demo event on Sunday, May 2nd from 1-3 p.m. Attendees will meet the Rainy Day Farm horses, learn about the philosophy of Parelli while enjoying demonstrations by Ms. Merrill and students, and have an opportunity for some hands-on experience as well. The mystery of the orange stick will be revealed!

The following are excerpts from the Parelli website (www.parelli.com) that explain the ideas behind the natural horsemanship program introduced by Pat and Linda Parelli, which is currently taking the horse world by storm around the globe.

"Horse lovers around the world who follow the Parelli program have found the greatest gift is discovering that Parelli enhances not only their relationship and communication with the horse, but touches every other relationship in their lives. The Parelli method allows horse lovers at all levels and disciplines to achieve success without force, partnership without dominance, teamwork without fear, willingness without intimidation, and harmony without coercion."

The Parelli Method isn't really horse training per se because horses are fine just the way they are. What we do is more human training because it's the human in the human-horse relationship that needs to learn how to relate naturally to the horse. The Parelli method teaches you how to work with your horse in the most loving, effective and efficient way possible for lasting results and success. ☙

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Tod Bryer

By now everyone in town knows about the huge fire we fought on Main Street February 8th. We are thankful that no one was injured, and we are grateful for the assistance we received from the fire departments of: Hillsborough, Deering, Bennington, Peterborough, Washington, Greenfield, Henniker, Hancock, Stoddard, and Francestown.

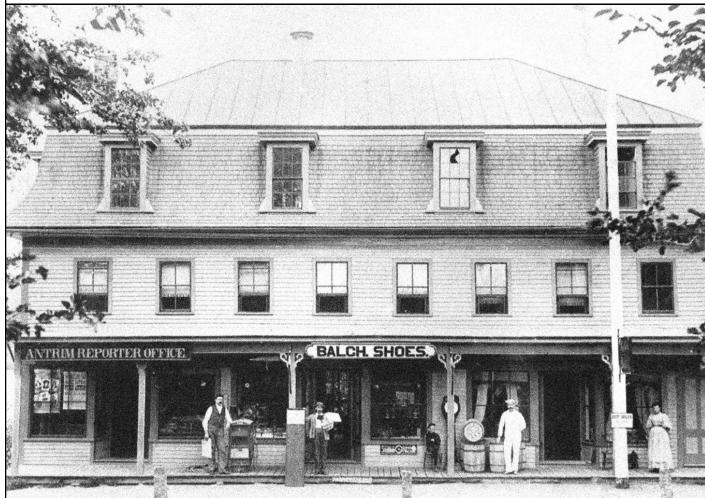
Following our last article about our need for a building to use for training, we were generously given use of a building that Michael Frosch was renovating. We were able to do several training sessions one Sunday morning. With a borrowed smoke machine, we created a realistic limited visibility environment, and we were able to rotate work crews through tasks that included advancing charged hand line, performing search and rescue, and interior firefighting operations without flowing water. By rotating crews through different tasks, we were able to give many new and inexperienced members valuable training opportunities and increased confidence. It also gave our experienced members an opportunity to handle command situations. This provided immediate results at our Main Street fire. Many thanks to Michael Frosch.

The Fire Department's annual open house is scheduled for Saturday May 15th from 11:00 to 3:00. There will be fire truck rides, auto extrication demonstrations, and a chance to meet Smokey the Bear. Many more displays and activities are still in the planning, and there will be something for all ages to enjoy.

The American Red Cross blood drive will be at the Antrim Fire Station on Tuesday April 20th from 1:00 to 6:00 pm with this year's goal set at 49 pints.

The Antrim Fire Department would like to extend a big thank you for the generous support and food from area business and community members during our Main Street fire. That showed what a truly great community we live in. ☙

46 MAIN STREET, ALSO KNOWN AS UNION HALL



AVENUE A TEEN CENTER

Dave Kirkpatrick

There was lots of music going on at Avenue A over the winter, and the plan is to have even more in the Spring. Two great local bands, The Ghost Dinner Band and Youngest Sun, put on free concerts in Antrim, one at Avenue A, and the other at the Town Hall. Both shows were well attended and drew plenty of praise from the crowds. The goal has become to make live music a monthly event at Avenue A, and we are looking for performers of all kinds (and all ages) who would like to play out in our "coffee house" style venue. Community Open Mic Night (also all ages, under 12 w/adult) has long been the featured event on the third Friday of each month, and now Dance Club will take place on every fourth Friday. Dance Club is casual, there's no door charge, and is suitable for more mature teens. As always, no outside drinks during Friday evening events. The snack bar is always open during events and helps support Avenue A.

Is there an Open Hours change coming? As of press time, nothing is carved in stone, but every once in a while it's fun to try something new (or old). The topic is once again up for consideration. People have asked about adding some weekend hours, even some morning hours. We've had mixed results with weekends in the past, but maybe it's time to try again, so keep an eye out for updates. As always, input from the community is welcome and wanted. The Teen Action Committee meets most Wednesdays at 5 p.m. to discuss such matters and for adults, the Steering/Advisory Group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. While these meetings are ideal ways to get involved and offer your input, a simple email is also effective.

Speaking of weekends, as soon as the milder weather comes we'll be getting our Slalom Skateboarding program back up and running. In 2009 we had four of our Ave A crew compete in the Can/AM International race right here in Antrim, and several of us traveled to other East Coast slalom racing events to participate. This year the training starts early, as we're all eager to pick up a couple places in the World Rankings. Skating is usually on Sundays, and there's lots of specialized loaner

gear available, so anyone can have a chance to come try this extreme sport. You don't need to be serious about racing to join us. Casual longboarders, photo/video enthusiasts, race course officials, and anyone who can flip a burger all contribute to the success of our Sunday Skates. We're usually joined by a few of the pro skaters from our neighboring states, so if you are thinking about getting serious, you will certainly be challenged.

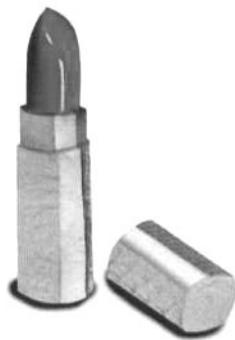
Finally, we all know that transportation can be an issue in this area, particularly for teens. The idea of ride sharing has been tossed around a bit, and is surely worth exploring further. It would be great to build a network of riders and drivers to help each other get to events, share costs, and to reduce our carbon footprint at the same time. To get things started, the focus is on Friday evening events. If you can offer a ride (or would like a ride) to or from a surrounding town on any Friday evening, please get in touch, the sooner the better. Events normally start at 7 p.m. and go until 9 or 10 p.m. Every little bit we can do to help each other out and to reduce our impact is important, and appreciated.

For information or to share your thoughts contact Dave Kirkpatrick, teencenter@tds.net, 588-3334. See our calendar: www.avenueatc.com.

Open Hours: Monday and Wednesday 2:30–6 p.m. and Friday 2:30–9 p.m.



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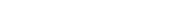
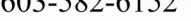
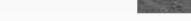
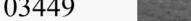
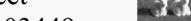
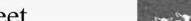
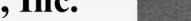
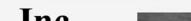
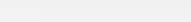
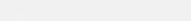
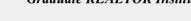
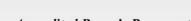
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Janet McEwen



THE PILOT

A TRIBUTE TO BUD HARDWICK

Bud played under the cool summer elms and dark green chestnut trees in Antrim

Watching cars full of people, loaded farm wagons and trucks going all the way to Boston

With a small growing hope that someday he would fly

As a teenager, he ushered at the movie theatre, bought flight lessons

One hour at a time, twenty miles away in a mowed field in Keene

But the world outside Antrim came apart and pulled him away

Pilots, they needed pilots for the war

He left Antrim for Alabama for air cadets' training,

On to Texas at Randolph Field for navigation school then gunnery school

He qualified to fly two engine light bombers: the twin tailed A-20 Havoc

The skittish silver B-25 Mitchell, B-26 Marauder

And the B-29 Superfortress, a plane of the future

Then new orders sent him off to ferry every plane there was

From Long Island to Bangor, Maine, on to Iceland,

Shannon, Ireland or Prestwick near Glasgow

To England's eastern shores, B-24s to stop the enemy advance

New orders to Miami, Belem in Brazil

Jumping off over the Atlantic toward Africa

Touching down on the Azores, a speck in the ocean, to refuel

On to Cairo and then India

At Jorhat, a sod and steel mesh airstrip in the Assam Valley,

He lived under the shadow of the Himalayas

Not up in the hills where the diplomats' wives escaped the heat

But in the heat and humidity that drenched socks and shirts, rotted boots

And wilted outsiders by 9AM

But there was no time to notice the sweat or the monsoons, the thunderstorms

From the dripping heat, he flew C-109 tankers up into the cold air, The plane unstable when filled with a cargo of aviation gas, Pilots went on oxygen, wore pile lined leather suits and aviator glasses

Bud flew over the eastern end of the Himalayas, the Burma Hump they called it

30,000 feet over the mountains into the clouds

With no charts, or maps, only a compass and sometimes a homing beacon

Hoping to miss the mountain peaks

Following the aluminum trail of pilots who hadn't

To Chengdu or Kunming in China

The only road was the sky

Now that the Japanese held the coast and the Pacific beyond

Then more orders – He flew more gas to the B-29's for the attack on Japan

Soon the war was over

Bud went home to marry Barbara and then Paul came along

He went into insurance and real estate, became a selectman

But the war had filled him with stories

And his ears never recovered from the sound of the engines

Sixty-two years of marriage and then Barbara slipped away

His strength went with her

He went on oxygen again but now rarely left the house
Until one January day, the house needed to be vacuumed and
dusted, cleaned, tidied

He drove to the bank and the post office, visited all over town.

That night a fierce headache overcame him

Paul as always at his side

In the ambulance Bud closed his eyes and then struggled to breathe
for four more hours

Before he broke away from earth's bonds

Leaving us without stories, without his breathy laugh

But he was flying again

Up above the clouds on the beacon

Toward home

Susan Yates Stewart, Bud's niece

2/13/2010



ANTRIM GRANGE

Arthur Merrill

Antrim Grange members have been active this winter with meetings, planning spring and summer activities, and attending state and regional events.

In January, Beth and Arthur Merrill and Gloria Davis attended the Northeast Leaders Conference in Brattleboro, VT., meeting with other Grange leaders from New England, and New York, as well as National Grange officials.

Members of Antrim Grange distributed 130 dictionaries to third grade students in ten schools in the region as part of the Dictionary Project NH program in January. Thanks to our sponsor, Proficient Painting (588-2721) for financially supporting this project.

The Antrim Grange scholarship is being offered again this year. Applications are available at Tuttle Library, by logging on to the Antrim Grange website (www.antrim.nhgrange.org), or by contacting any member of the Grange.

Plans are underway for the 8th annual Art Show to be held at the Grange Hall in June. If you are an artist and interested in having some of your work displayed, contact Arthur or Beth Merrill at 588-6615 or at bmerrill@nhgrange.org.

On March 17 we will host a speaker at the Library who will talk about starting seeds and gardening. We are sponsoring the community garden again this year, and many thanks go to Dave Boule for allowing us to use a piece of his land for this worthwhile project. Anyone interested in having a plot in the garden should contact Connie Kirwin at 588-6650 or cfk@mcttelecom.com.

On April 21st we will celebrate Grange Month and the reopening of the Grange Hall for the summer season with a karaoke and square dance night. Come and join us!

On May 19, we will hold our annual community awards night at the Grange Hall. We will honor a community citizen, announce our scholarship winner, and other awards will also be given. If any community member has an idea of who the Grange should honor, please let Arthur or Beth Merrill know so they can be considered.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MAR

- 3 Lenten Luncheons** • the Baptist Church • 12 NOON
5 Family Fun Night • Town Gym • 6:30–8:00 PM
8 Pajama Party & Literacy Night! • The Grapevine • 6 – 7:30 PM
9 Elections • Town Hall • 8:00 AM – 7:00 PM
10 Lenten Luncheons • the Baptist Church • 12 NOON
11 Town Meeting • Town Gym • 7:00 PM
13 Roller Skating • Town Gym • 6:00 – 8:00 PM
17 Lenten Luncheons • the Baptist Church • 12 NOON
18 Community Supper • the Presbyterian Church • 5:30 PM
19 Concert • Dowling (harp), Dowling (guitar), Koutroubas (cello) • Tuttle Library • 7:30 PM
20 Turkey Dinner • the Baptist Church • 5 – 6:30 PM
20–27 Scouts Food Drive • benefit Antrim-Bennington Food Pantry
23 Freedom from Tobacco • The Grapevine • 6 – 7:30 PM
24 Lenten Luncheons • the Baptist Church • 12 NOON
26 Owltree Storytellers • Tuttle Library • 10:00 AM
27 Easter Egg Hunt • Town Gym • 10:00 – 11:00 AM



APR

- 2 Family Fun Night** • Town Gym • 6:30–8:00 PM
10 Roller Skating • the Town Gym • 6:00–8:00 PM
10 Scout Expo • at the Keene Recreation Center, Washington St, Keene
12 Tax Prep Q&A and Money Management • The Grapevine • 6:30 – 8:30 PM
15 Community Supper • the Presbyterian Church • 5:30 PM
18 "Meet Eleanor Roosevelt" • Historical Society Program • the Presbyterian Church • 3 PM
21 April Vacation Fun: Open Playroom • The Grapevine • 9:30 – 11:30 AM
26 Owltree Storytellers • Tuttle Library • 10:00 AM

MAY

- 1 Daffodil Day Festivities**
7:00 – 9:30 AM • **Breakfast** • the Presbyterian Church
8:00 – 9:30 AM • **Fishing Derby** • Mill Pond Memorial Park
9:00 – 9:30 AM • **Fly Fishing Clinic** • Place in the Woods
9:00 – 9:30 AM • **Shrub Care Clinic** • Tylers Small Engine
9:30 – 10:00 AM • **Gardening Equipment Clinic** • Tylers Small Engine
9:30 AM • **Gardening with Kids** • Tuttle Library side yard
9:30 AM – **Sixth Annual Spring Walk for Families** • The Grapevine • register: 9:30 – 10:00 AM
10:10 AM • **Clinic (TBA) & Free Seed Packet** • Edmunds ACE Hardware
10:45 AM • **Coffee Break** • Bakery 42 on Main Street
11:00 AM • **Ceremonial "Daffodil Cutting"**
11:10 AM • **Organic Gardening Clinic** • Tuttle Library
1:00 – 3:00 PM • **Bike Rodeo** • Greak Brook School parking lot
2 Open Barn & Demo • Parelli Natural Horsemanship • Rainy Day Farm • 1:00 – 3:00 PM
16 Historical Society Program: USS Antrim • Peter Martel • the Presbyterian Church • 5:30 PM
20 Community Supper • the Presbyterian Church • 5:30 PM
26 Owltree Storytellers • Tuttle Library • 10:00 AM



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WEBBER BROTHERS HAVE SWEET JOB MAKING MAPLE SYRUP

Sandy Snow

Making maple syrup from scratch has come a long way since the Indians discovered the sweet sap produced by sugar maples hundreds of years ago. One story says that Indian children observed red squirrels running through the maple trees, gnawing on branches to open up the wood. Then they would return to each branch and lick the sap at the gnawed spot.

Reportedly, the children discovered that they, too, could break a branch and let the sap drip into their mouths. Later, Indians collected the sap into clay pots and cooked it to make syrup and sugar for use throughout the year. Early settlers learned the value of maple syrup from the Indians. Over the years the process of collecting and boiling down the sap has progressed greatly.

Gordon Webber and his brothers, Gary, Glenn, and Russell of Antrim maintain a sugaring operation and a new sugarhouse on Old Hancock Road. Another brother, Andrew, who lives in California, is an honorary member of the operation. I talked to Gordon and was surprised to discover that making maple syrup was a combination of hard work and clever use of tanks, tubing, and heating pans to boil off the water in the sap to get to the syrup.

Collecting sap begins in late February and continues until buds develop on the trees. At that point, the quality of the sap diminishes, Gordon says. In late winter the sap begins to flow up and down in the trees due to tiny fibers that draw water from the roots up into the tree in the daytime as the sun warms the tree and it expands slightly. At night, when it is colder, the tree contracts, forcing the sap downward. Water absorbs sugar in the roots, and the continual replenishing of this water with sugar as the sap is forced up and down over and over again creates the ingredients for maple syrup. Cold nights and warm days are the ideal combination for collecting lots of sap. Last year, he added, was a great year for sap.

Why do people collect sap only from sugar maples? Gordon said that sugar maples have sap with a two percent level of sugar, while red maples have just one percent. Collecting enough sap from red maples would take twice as long and it would take twice as much heating energy and boiling to obtain the same quantity of syrup. Birches can be tapped, though their syrup does not taste as good. He said that there aren't enough birches on their 110 acre "sugar-bush" to make it worthwhile.

The Webbers tap 600 trees, and with so many taps it would be virtually impossible to carry buckets back to the sugarhouse, even two at a time with the help of a wooden yoke fitting over the shoulders. Today, trees are tapped by drilling a hole and inserting a plastic tap attached to plastic tubing allowing the sap to flow downhill into large storage tanks. These tanks then feed the sap by gravity into the first of two heating pans, the "back pan." A float system ensures that there is the right amount of sap at all times in the pan.

Heating elements in the pan boil the sap, thus evaporating the water. Channels running the length of the six-foot pan force the sap back and forth four or five times to extend boiling time. Another float system in the front pan regulates the amount of sap that can flow into it. As the heating process continues, the more syrupy sap flows forward, leaving the more watery sap behind. He checks the temperature of the syrup at the end of the front pan. Water boils at 212 degrees Fahrenheit at sea level, but as Antrim is at about 800 feet, it boils at approximately 209 degrees. The rule of thumb is to add seven degrees to water-boiling figure—216 degrees—before drawing off any syrup. A hydrometer also is used to check the specific gravity of the syrup to be sure it is the right consistency. The syrup is drawn off and heated further in another smaller pan, and finally it is filtered to remove any sediment. It requires 45 to 60 gallons of sap to make one gallon of syrup.

The driving force behind syrup making is lots of heat, and Gordon says they use about ten cords of wood a year which they cut and split themselves. One problem with using wood is that when the pans need more heat they have to throw in more logs, and as some of the fire goes to heating the fresh wood, the boiling halts until the pans get back up to temperature. This slows the refining process, and Gordon and his brothers spend sixteen to eighteen hours a day feeding the fire and refining the sap.

It sounded monotonous and boring to me, but Gordon said that as soon as smoke starts coming out of the sugar house people stop their cars and come in for a chat and maybe a beer or two. He said that's the way it is at every sugarhouse. Asked whether it is worth all the effort, he said he and his brothers have been involved in syrup making for more than forty years—since they were kids—and they thoroughly enjoy it.

OR



New sugar house which is home to the Webber brothers' sugaring operation. It is near the intersection of West Street and Old Hancock Road in Antrim.

THE ULTIMATE GREEN MEAT WILD GAME

Peter Gagne

Before there was an America, before there were animals raised for eating, and long before we turned Thanksgiving into a holiday for overeating and the demise of a million turkeys, there were true American meats. The very first Thanksgiving celebrated by the Wampanoag natives and Pilgrims was not with a Butter Ball turkey, it was with venison. As we advance into cyber space and powerful technology, soon there will be little use for fading characters such as myself. Readers of my *Limrik* ramblings know by now that I am a hunter, fishermen, trapper, and small time farmer. Therefore I am interested in a new trend that hooks up the power of today with the original wild meat of the past, the “green” movement. This movement has taken hold in a massive and commercial way. Catch phrases like “locally harvested,” “free range,” “organic,” and my favorite, “humanely slaughtered,” have folks feeling much better about their eating habits and how animals live before they die. This green movement has folks raising animals in their back yards, feeding them all-natural diets, giving them personal names, and paying huge money for so-called free-range turkey or chicken. (A little side note: a “free range” bird is classified as an animal that has at least one hour outside its cage every day.)

I admire folks who take the effort to get back to a more natural way of eating which is for sure better for the heart—literally—and the soul as well. So I, and my fellow hunters, feel especially green about the green movement. Some non-hunters will never understand the passion that pulls us into the woods, but many of them will sympathize with our passion for what we bring home. Wild game stands above all other meat in its health benefits. Much lower in cholesterol and fat, game generally contains higher vitamin and protein content than farm or commercially raised meat. And as far as variety and quality of taste are concerned, well, each animal has its own unique and delicious flavor. Hunting for the ultimate green meat is not easy, nor is it as inhumane as the cruel killing of animals in commercial slaughterhouses or raising an animal you plan on dispatching from its life in your back yard. The hunting success rate for any man, woman, or child who takes to the field is about one in every ten times out. Hunters walk many a mile and sit many an hour on their favorite stand, and when they are successful, they spend hours caring for and cleaning their harvest. It is a labor of love, but kid yourself not, it is labor.

Hunting is the original green movement in harvesting good, clean meat naturally. However, every year hunters lose critical wildlife habitat, hunting privileges, and access to private land due to the actions of a public that often views hunting as a cruel and frivolous sport. Yet, now we have this new “green” movement that somehow makes it okay to charge outrageous money for animals raised nowhere near as free or healthy as a wild deer, moose, fat old seed-stealing gray squirrel, or gar-

den-raiding woodchuck. Also, this wild game stands a much better chance of surviving than do so called “free range” domestic animals. Sorry folks, that makes no sense to me, not only as a hunter, but as a human being as well. There is no “free” life for any animal raised in captivity, including animals raised organically, free-range, or as back-yard critters. Nothing is more free-range or green than a deer, squirrel, partridge, duck, goose, or any other wild species.

The thing that kills me, so to speak, is the public’s acceptance of the ways “organic” animals are supposedly “humanely” slaughtered by the green movement. There are only so many ways to kill an animal, and who is to say what is the proper way. As I drift through this world trying to decide what is right and what is wrong, I am thankful that I and many of my fellow hunters know that we are green and clean in our pursuit and harvesting of game.

However, there is much more to the hunt than the kill: sunrise on a cold November morning painting the sky with colors no artist can catch, the wet smell of dawn in the woods, the flight of a red-tail hawk as the day begins, and the quiet of all the noise that nature makes. I hunt because somewhere along the line I slipped back to the days when the first Americans, the Ojibway and the Shawnee and the Seminole and the Cree Indians, the first Pilgrim settlers, and my heroes, the western mountain men, first started the green movement, not because it was cool to do as it seems to be today, but because it was their need to eat to survive.

Hunters will always be green. Hell, we even dress like trees and leaves to be closer to our environment. ☙

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MOM'S COOKIN'

Schatze Moore

I went home for Christmas this year. I went to my mother. I have been in New Hampshire for thirty years, and this was just the third Christmas that I have spent with my mother. People have often asked me where I hail from. My reply is usually, "Nowhere." You see, I am what used to be referred to as an "Army Brat." My family moved every two and a half to three years so that for the first fifteen years of my life my parents and siblings were the only people I could say I had known my whole life. They were my community, my home, where I came from.

So I went home for the holiday to my first home, to my mom. She was so thrilled when I told her I was coming for Christmas. Whenever I have gone home to visit my mom, I usually try to do some cooking for her. She likes my cooking, so I planned some meals that I thought she would enjoy. She doesn't cook much anymore as there is only herself, but she is a good cook of regular food and I always say she is the one who taught me how to cook "Stone Soup." Anyway, I didn't do much at all as she had all the meals planned, and I want to tell you we ate like clockwork.

My visit with my mother was excellent, and now I am in my New Hampshire home, I keep finding myself wanting to cook the foods of my childhood, including mom's macaroni and cheese, of course. My mom loves Reuben sandwiches, but instead of Thousand Island dressing, she used a spicy brown mustard. The accompaniment was always potato chips and a good dill pickle. We loved her goulash, what you might know here in New England as American Chop Suey. For my birthday, my mother would always make a New England Boiled Dinner, but instead of using corned beef with the cabbage, carrots, onions and potatoes, she used smoked pork hocks. (She was a farm girl from Kentucky, and needless to say corn bread and shell beans are very familiar to me.) I can't cook a boiled dinner like she did, but I do love pork hocks and beans. The first time I cooked that meal for my husband, he was not impressed as he did not like the look of the hock sitting in the bowl of beans. (Visit your grocery store and take a look at the pork hocks and you will get an idea of what I am talking about.)

Sometimes my mom just made up recipes, boredom probably her motivation. She fed us a mashed potato and hot dog casserole that we thought was scrumptious. Cook the potatoes till fork tender, drain, mash with one fourth to one half cup heated milk that has two to four tablespoons butter melted in it. (She had a potato masher with a fine metal mesh that never left a lump.) Spread the potatoes in a casserole dish. Next cut some hot dogs in half, length wise, then cut the lengths in half. Push the hot dogs pieces into the potatoes, evenly distributed. Cut some wedges of cheddar cheese and stick them into the potatoes too, dot the whole casserole with pieces of butter, then bake in a 350-degree oven till lightly browned and bubbly. Yum! My mouth is watering.

I remember two more of mom's meals. For the standard grilled cheese sandwich, you have to use plain old white sandwich bread if you want to recreate the childhood memory, and butter, please don't forget the butter. Sometimes my mom would include a smear of peanut butter on the bread to give the grilled cheese sandwich a little enhancement. Nice! For her French toast, the same rule applies: plain old white sandwich bread because it is not about the bread, it's about the egg and milk with the cinnamon and nutmeg and sugar. The bread soaks up all those delicious flavors, and then you fry it in butter. The butter elevates the toast to the next level which is the serving of the toast smothered in maple syrup. Dee-licious!

When I think of my childhood, what comes back is mom's cookin'.



TROOP 2

SCOUTS WILL LEAD "TO HELP OTHER PEOPLE" FOOD DRIVE, MARCH 20 AND 27

As happened in spring 2009, Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts will mobilize a second food drive due to significant need in our community. The Antrim-Bennington Food Pantry receives a matching financial grant based on the number of food items we collect, so your gift is multiplied during this food drive.



The Antrim-Bennington food pantry uses the grant to purchase food at the New Hampshire Food Bank for pennies on the dollar, stretching your donation event further! Door hanger reminders will be distributed on March 20, and boys will return on March 27 to pick up donations. Please place your donation on your porch or near your front door by 9 a.m. on the 27th so it can be spotted by the Scouts. If you do not receive a flier, please contact Scout Ethan Beihl, coordinator of the drive, at 588-3014 and we'll arrange to pick up your food. If we miss your donation, please call 620-8300, and we'll arrange to pick up your bags.

OR



PIANO CONCERT • APRIL 27
Capitol Center for the Arts, Concord
Haochen Zhang

Community Bus leaves 5:15 returns 10:00 pm

ANTRIM RECREATION DEPARTMENT LATE WINTER AND SPRING ACTIVITIES

Celeste Lunetta

Thank you for your continued support of the Parks and Recreation Department Activities. We have reduced the Parks and Recreation 2010 operating budget from the town's General Fund by 10%. This was achieved several ways, and among them, the town's funding for Antrim in the Evening and the Annual Fishing Derby was cut. There will need to be a grassroots, community effort to raise funds for the summer concert series. If you are interested in helping to preserve this tradition, please contact Celeste at 588-3121. Sponsors for the Fishing Derby have already been secured, and it will still be held on Saturday May 1st, as part of the Chamber of Commerce Daffodil Days.

YOUTH BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL

Signups are due by March 8th. The fees for these programs have gone up, and some scholarships are available for families with a need. Please help spread the word to families and kids that they should come in and register, and we will find a way to help with the registration fees. Participating in a team sport can have profoundly positive impact on a child, and its family, and we really want all kids to play!

ONGOING PROGRAMS

Ongoing recreation programs include **Yoga** on Tuesday evenings, **Yogilates** on Thursday evenings, **Adult Volleyball** on Thursday evenings, and **Adult open Basketball** on Sunday evenings. We have also introduced an ongoing series of dance lessons, and are in search for step aerobics and other cardiac workouts at the Town Gym. Call us with suggestions. Call 588-3121 for information on any of our programs.

Here is a list of other programs coming up. Full program information is available at the Recreation Department, as well as at the Town Hall, sometimes at the Tuttle Library, and always online at www.antrimnh.org. We also have a Facebook page, which is updated daily.

MOVIES AT ANTRIM TOWN HALL

- Thursday March 4: 7 p.m. "The Invention of Lying," PG-13
- Friday March 5: 8 p.m. "Where The Wild Things Are" PG
- Saturday March 6: 4 p.m. "Ponyo"

- Friday April 2: 7 p.m. "Precious"
 - Saturday April 3: 4 p.m. "Fantastic Mr. Fox"
- See the website www.antrimnh.org for most current listings.

SPRING SPECIALS

Friday March 12: Celebrate St Patrick's Day with a trip to an **Irish music concert** at the Dana Center, St. Anselm College. Bus leaves Antrim at 6:30 p.m. and returns around 11:30 p.m. Enjoy a night out on the town, and leave the driving to us! Cost for this trip is \$25 per person, which includes the ticket and transportation on the community bus. Here is a little information about the bands: Pogey and Cara are a unique brew of Celtic music with two powerhouse bands from two surprising corners of the world. Pogey hails from Halifax, Nova Scotia, bringing with them an intoxicating blend of traditional and contemporary sound that combines original Celtic/Rock tunes with stellar instrumentals. A feast of fiddle, mandolin, acoustic guitar, banjo, bass, drums and four-part vocal harmonies keeps this on the high-octane stage show list for sure. Cara calls Germany home but finds its musical roots planted firmly in Irish tradition. Weaving flute, guitar, piano, fiddle, pipes and concertina together with brilliant vocals, the band adds the flavor of German folk influence to infuse a fresh perspective on the music.

Wednesday 17: Ski Trip to Waterville Valley. Celebrate St Patrick's Day on the slopes, and save some green as Waterville offers a deep discount on tickets. Lift tickets are \$17; transportation on community bus is \$10 per seat. Bus leaves Antrim at 7 a.m. and returns around 5:30 p.m.

Saturday March 20: Contra Dance to welcome Spring! 7–10 p.m. at Antrim Town Hall. This will be the first in a series of seasonal Contra Dances. These dances will be perfect for all, and beginners will feel welcome and seasoned dancers can enjoy an evening of well played tunes and experienced calls. These dances are sponsored by Antrim Friends of Recreation, and this first dance features New Boston Fancy. As the series progresses, we will have a variety of local callers and musicians. Dance starts at 7 p.m. with doors open at 6:15 p.m. Food will be sold to support the costs, and there will be a \$5 per person, \$10 per family donation suggested at the door.

—continued on page 22



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Fridays, March 26, April 2 and April 9: Salsa Dance lessons at Antrim Town Hall. Free dance lessons provided by resident Gabriella Guererra. Lessons are from 6–6:45 p.m.

Saturday March 27: Annual Spring Egg Hunt from 10–11 a.m. at the Antrim Town Gym. Bring your own basket. This wonderful event, sponsored by Antrim Friends of Recreation, starts promptly, and is designed for young children ages 3 and older. Younger children are welcome, but parents will need to monitor them.

Friday April 23: Community Bus trip to see the **Lakota Sioux Dance Theatre**. Bus leaves Antrim at 6 p.m. and returns around 11 p.m. Cost is \$25 per person for ticket and bus. This will be a dazzling performance honoring the deepest roots of our nation. The Lakota Sioux Dance Theatre is a Native American dance troupe committed to preserving and celebrating the rich history of their culture. Founded on the Rosebud Sioux Reservation of South Dakota in 1978 with the support of traditional elders, healers and cultural leaders, the troupe is dedicated to a thriving Lakota culture for generations to come. Experience the holistic worldview of the Lakota Sioux through captivating dance, music, and storytelling set against a backdrop of spectacular video imagery.

Saturday April 17: Introduction to Junior **Target Archery** from 1–3 p.m. This will be a free program for kids ages 6 through 14. Kids will learn the basic safety rules of a range, as well as fundamentals for target archery. There will be two sessions, and pre-registration is highly recommended, as there will be a limited number of spots per session.

Sunday April 25 Pitch Hit and Run, Baseball and Softball Division. Softball Division will be held in Peterborough, Baseball in Antrim. ANY child ages 6–16—whether or not registered for our youth teams—is welcome to join this FREE event in which kids demonstrate skill in pitching a ball at a target, running bases for best time, and hitting a ball for distance and accuracy. Winners are chosen by age bracket, and progress to state, regional, and eventually All Star MLS game level competition!

Tuesday April 27: Community Bus trip to Capitol Center for the Arts in Concord to hear **pianist Haochen Zhang**, a world famous pianist who is 19 years old. Cost is \$2.50 for the bus, the concert is free. Bus leaves Antrim Town Hall at 5:15 p.m. and returns around 10 p.m. Haochen Zhang was the youngest participant in the 2009 Cliburn Competition. He gave his debut recital at the Shanghai Music Hall at the age of five, performing all of Bach's two-part inventions, as well as sonatas by Haydn and Mozart. He performed with orchestra at age six, and moved to the United States at 15 to attend the Curtis Institute of Music.

Wednesdays April 28, May 5, 12 and 19: After School Swimming at Crotched Mountain. This program is open to all children, with kids under the age of 8 requested to register

with a guardian. The bus will leave Antrim at 3:10 p.m., returning to the Town Gym at 5:15 p.m. for parent pick up. Kids will participate in some instruction, as well as have some time for free swim. Cost is \$50 for the series for transportation and swim time. A reduced rate is available for children who attend with a parent. Call 588-3121 for details.

Saturday May 1: This will be a busy day! It is opening day for Softball, Daffodil Day in Antrim! The **Fishing Derby** will be held at Memorial Pond at 8 a.m., and the **bike safety rodeo** will be held at the Antrim Town Gym between 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Saturday May 22: Community Bus trip to the Dana Center to hear the sweet, sweet sounds of the **Glenn Miller Orchestra**. Bus leaves Antrim Town Hall at 6 p.m. and returns around 11:30 p.m. Cost is \$25 per person which includes transportation and concert tickets. The renowned Glenn Miller Orchestra has the unique jazz sound that establishes it as one of the most popular and sought after big bands in the world today. Under the musical direction of trombonist Larry O'Brien since the mid 1950s, the orchestra keeps the legend of America's favorite 'Big Band Era' orchestra leader alive. Come with us on this trip, and take a romantic step back in time.

DAYS OF SUMMER CAMP

Complete brochures and Registrations for our popular summer day camp will be ready by the second week in April. Some weeks of our summer camp fill up quickly, so register early! This year, full day summer camp will be held Monday–Friday July 5 through July 23. Full day programming is available by combining recreation programs and soccer camp for the week of July 26. There is full day Basketball Camp the week of August 2. The final week of Days of Summer Camp is August 9. The cost of camp will be the same as last year, and early bird discounts, with a savings of \$15 per week, are available to all who register before Friday May 14. Payment Plans, as well as some scholarships are available.

For more information about any of our programs call the Rec Dept at 588-3121 and check the website at: www.antrimnh.org.

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RTI MATH MODEL AT GREAT BROOK SCHOOL

Helene Newbold, Seventh Grade Math Teacher and RTI Math Coordinator

Great Brook School began implementing RTI ("Response to Intervention" which is part of the federally mandated "No Child Left Behind") in May of 2009. Members of our staff used a New Hampshire state database to analyze student assessment by grade level. We focused on students who scored "substantially below proficient" or "below proficient." Those students who scored "substantially below proficient" were identified as tier 3 students (those who would need intensive support). Those students who were "below proficient" were identified as tier 2 students (those who needed specific skill development). The tier 2 students were scheduled for 2 to 3 blocks of intervention time a week and work in groups no larger than ten. Tier 3 students work in groups no larger than six. After groups were established, teachers were consulted to verify that the results from tests in 2009 were truly what they observed in the classroom.

We then tackled scheduling these sessions. We found that we could access the greatest number of teachers during eighth block. All staff members were considered when groups were assigned. We also found that some of our specialists had other blocks during the day to assist tier 2 or 3 students who participated in the music program. Currently, we have 3 students who individually receive their intervention with two specialist teachers during an alternative block.

The instructional materials for these interventions were chosen by three criteria: 1) Easy of use by everyone. 2) Alignment with grade-level standards. 3) Price. One of the companies being piloted at the middle school had a program that was research-based and used diagnostics to inform instruction. These materials are free and the company has been really wonderful about supplying any materials that we have requested. It includes K-8 materials.

There are currently 99 students in our RTI math intervention program.

After NECAP state test preparation classes during the first six weeks of school, our students started to receive the math interventions. We have used the assessments in the program to inform our instruction on a daily/weekly basis. It is important to note that our winter test scores show improvement for the majority of students receiving interventions.

Based on test scores and our other assessments, some students have exited tier 3 to move to tier 2, and some tier 2 students are now on grade level. The excitement for these students to succeed in a subject that was considered their weakest has significantly built their confidence across the curriculum. Also, we have seen more progress in other subjects as a result of success in our RTI classes. ☙

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ANTRIM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

G. Bruce West, Principal

AES continues to look to the future as a school and as part of a campus. As a school, we continue to build a strong learning community based on our core values of kindness, respect, cooperation and honesty and based on the collaboration of our dedicated and hard working staff.

Recently I met with a small group of staff from AES and GBS and one of our school board representatives to talk about our vision for the campus and our next steps. We spent a good deal of time discussing the informal connections being made between the two schools and the benefits of those connections for the students and the organization as a whole. Informal connections include AES students attending assemblies at GBS. While this is a social opportunity and a common experience, it also offers AES students a glimpse of what is to come. GBS students sometimes give presentations at our weekly AES assemblies, and recently the Great Brook cheerleaders, who are coached by Ms. Bastarache, one of our fourth grade teachers, performed at an assembly. This is another way for our older students to be positive role models.

We have a more formal connection through the GBS extended learning program. The Griffins' Nest program is designed to have our older GBS students work as mentors with their younger buddies at AES. This has been a very successful opportunity to be connected and is one of the courses that has the highest enrollment. We also have reading buddies. Recently, we began to discuss connecting the work of the each school's PTO and looking at the campus as a broader connection within our community.

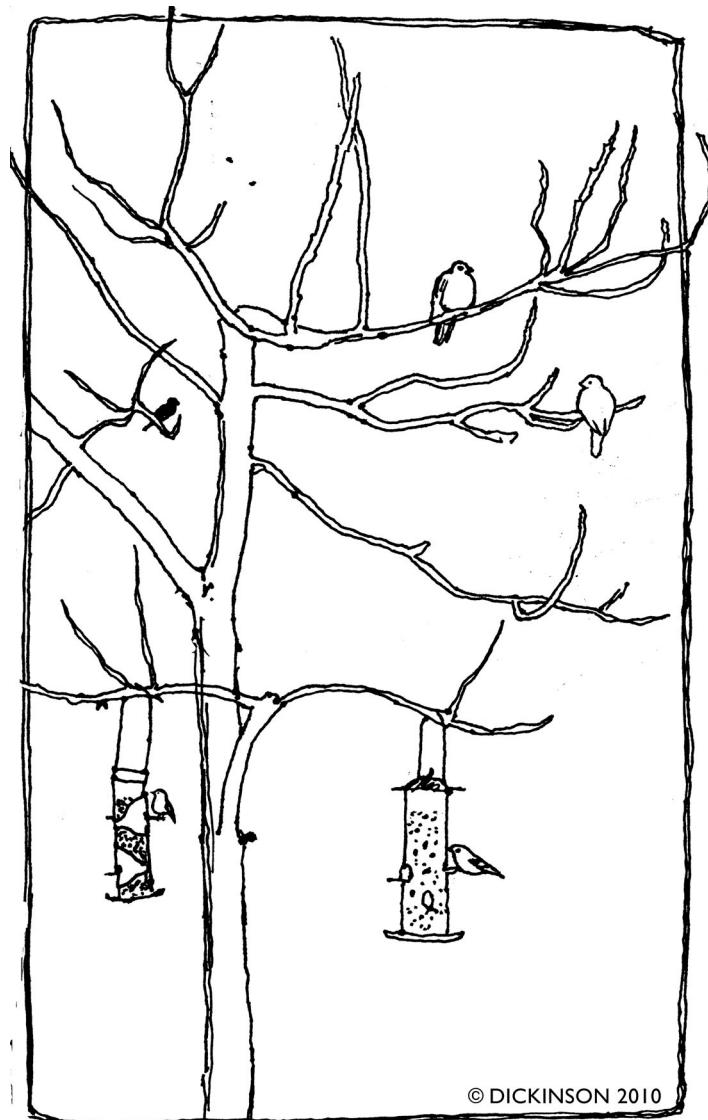
Beyond these links, we are discussing what might be possible if the two schools were on the same schedule. What might be the potential benefits? Students would have the opportunity to have lunches in potentially different groupings, they would know some of our faculty members for eight years rather than four or five, they could access co-curricular opportunities, and there would be the potential to expand extended learning opportunities. Our faculty members who are assigned across the campus would have greater flexibility in scheduling. As everyone knows, time is the greatest challenge

in all schools. We would have a common time during combined faculty meetings to collaborate about curricula and instruction, to look more closely at the results of our assessments, and to have a clearer view of trends that we see and determine how to better serve our students. We would be able to extend our use of PBIS into an integrated campus model, and we would be able to look at other faculty connections across the campus.

The committee believes that the best way to begin the process of creating a vision for the future is to look at how we can best meet the needs of our students given the abundance of talent and the many resources that the ConVal School District provides. The potential is exciting and energizing as it affords us the opportunity to create something new, something that our district does not currently have.

We will share our list of potential benefits with all of our constituent groups and invite new members to join us in creating a vision for the future. Please stay tuned.

I want to thank Sarah Edwards for collaborating on each AES submission to the *Limrik*. OR



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TUTTLE LIBRARY NEWS

Melissa Lawless and Kathryn Chisholm

PROGRAMS

- **March-April** Creative Arts Display for Children
- **March 19** at 7:30 p.m. James A. Tuttle Library Concert Series featuring Sharon Dowling, Celtic Harp; Guitarist Tim Dowling; Cellist Andrew Koutroubas
- **March 26** at 10 a.m. Owltree Storytellers "There's a Mystery in the Library"
- **April 23** at 10 a.m. Owltree Storytellers "Old Tales"
- **May 28** at 10 a.m. Owltree Storytellers "Leapin' Lizards"

LIBRARY CLOSED

Thursday March 11 we will close early, at 6 p.m., for Town Meeting. And closed Monday May 31 for Memorial Day.

CREATIVE ARTS DISPLAY

We have extended our much appreciated Creative Arts Display to include the month of March this year. All children are encouraged to display their creative handiwork of any medium (written word, paintings, sculpture, fiber arts, etc.) at the Library. Persuade your budding artists to get their creative juices flowing; the world wants to see the amazing things they are doing!

CONCERT SERIES

Be sure to join us on Friday March 19th at 7:30 p.m. for an evening of music provided by three fabulous local musicians, Sharon Dowling, Andrew Koutroubas and Tim Dowling. Sharon Dowling, who plays Celtic harp, is the Music Director at the First Presbyterian Church in Antrim. Cellist Andrew Koutroubas, a teenager, has been studying cello since the 5th grade and is one of the youngest cellists to perform with the Nashua Chamber Orchestra. Each will be performing solo pieces as well as several pieces arranged for both cello and harp. Accomplished guitarist Tim Dowling plays a variety of music ranging from classical to progressive rock. Tim studied with Frank Wallace of Antrim, and attended the Concord Community Music School and the Berklee College of Music in Boston. He currently teaches guitar in Milford. Please be with us for what promises to be a delightful evening of listening pleasure. The doors open at 7 p.m., so plan to arrive early as seating is limited.

LATE GREATS

Crime novelist **Robert B. Parker** died at the age of 77 on January 18th of this year. The creator of the popular *Spenser* series which developed into the hit television series, *Spenser: for Hire*, Parker received two Edgar Awards for mystery writers and received the 2008 Gumshoe Lifetime Achievement Award. His novels were noted for their modern flavor marked by his inclusive use of characters of varied race and sexual persuasions. Fans of Robert B. Parker can look forward to several more novels which will be published posthumously.

Notable reclusive New Hampshire author **J.D. Salinger**, best known for the book, *The Catcher in the Rye*, died on

January 27, 2010 at the age of 91. *The New Yorker* first published his short story, "A Perfect Day for Bananafish" in 1948 and continued to publish many of his other short stories thereafter. His novel, *The Catcher in the Rye*, published in 1951 found its home on the *New York Times* Best Sellers List for 30 weeks and has seen eight printings. The story's honest depiction of life viewed through the eyes of the emotionally troubled teenager, Holden Caulfield, was filled with profanities and religious slurs coupled with the angst and accusations of "phoniness" typical of his age, making this book not only wildly popular but also highly controversial. Numerous high school English teachers lost their jobs under the guise of censorship for assigning the published works of J.D. Salinger. Although once banned in most schools, *The Catcher in the Rye* now resides on many high school required reading lists.

WHY LIBRARIES ARE A GREAT VALUE

During this economic crisis, libraries worldwide are seeing increased usage. Instead of buying books, audio or movies, renting movies, subscribing to magazines and newspapers, paying for Internet access, or replacing broken computers, more and more people are using the library's resources. Those who have been hardest hit have been those who could least afford it. Nationally, public libraries are among the **most cost-effective** of all public services—serving more than two thirds of the public with less than 2% of all tax dollars. The average NH taxpayer contributes about \$26.00 in taxes per year to fund public libraries and their services. *ANTRIM TAX-PAYERS RECEIVE OVER \$504,000.00 worth of services for \$130,000.* (This figure was calculated by using the New Hampshire Library Use Value Calculator).

Where else can you have access to so many things—in print, on CD, DVD, and the Web—as well as personal assistance in finding and using them? And, if we don't have something you want, we can borrow it from any library in the state, and if it's really exotic, we can borrow worldwide. The Library is Antrim's only source for free computer and Internet use, including wireless access. It also offers the expertise of librarians to access, use and help evaluate the information people find. Where else can you write and print your resume, search and apply for a job online, apply for unemployment benefits online, apply to college online, for free, and with assistance if needed?

The Library offers materials in a wide variety of formats: books, newspapers and magazines in print; audio [i.e. music CDs, books on audiocassette and CD, Playaways (self-contained audio and player combined)], and access to the State Library's NH Downloadable Audio Program with over 3,000 titles available; movies on video and DVD.

In the aftermath of the December 2008 ice storm, power came back quickly to downtown and the Library offered extended hours, hot coffee and cider, something to do, computer and Internet access, a place to charge cell-phones, and a warm and comfortable place to sit and thaw out while visiting with friends or strangers, reading, or playing a game. We became "Antrim's living room" and we continue to be. ☙

CHURCH NEWS

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

588-2209

REV. PEGGI K. BOYCE

SUNDAY WORSHIP • 10:30 AM

Communion is served on the 1st Sunday of every month

March 3, 10, 17, 24 • Lenten Luncheons • 12 noon at the Antrim Baptist Church. Guest speakers; bring a bag lunch and share a meal together

March 28 • Palm Sunday

April 1 • Maundy Thursday • Holy Communion will be served at 6:30 pm

April 4 • Ecumenical Easter Sunrise service • 6:30 am on the Presbyterian Church front lawn; the Rev. Charlie Boucher will offer service

May 1 • Daffodil Day • Breakfast served from 7–9:30 am in Fellowship Hall

May 23 • Pentecost Sunday • Please wear red or white

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BAPTIST CHURCH

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PASTOR CHARLES V. BOUCHER

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM

March 3, 10, 17, 24 • Lenten Luncheons • 12 noon Guest speakers; bring a bag lunch and share a meal together

March 20 • Turkey Dinner • 5–6:30 pm. All proceeds to go to Wheel Chairs for Haiti. Adults \$8; Children (5-12) \$5; Family maximum \$30

April 1 • Maundy Thursday • 6:30 pm Communion service

April 4 • Ecumenical Easter Sunrise service • 6:30 am on the Presbyterian Church front lawn

April 4 • Easter service • 10:30 am

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FLOWERS, FISHING, FUN

ANTRIM DAFFODIL DAY MAY 1

Brian Beihl

Join your friends and family for Antrim Daffodil Day, Saturday, May 1, to celebrate the coming of spring! Sponsored by the Antrim Chamber of Commerce, and supported by the Antrim Recreation Department, Tuttle Library, First Presbyterian Church, and the Police Department, this fun day of food, outdoor activities, gardening clinics, and beauty has something for everyone. Returning are the gardening clinics, May Breakfast, fishing derby, and bike rodeo. New events this year include additional clinics and the Grapevine Family Walk, a five-mile fundraising walk to benefit the Grapevine. Featured speakers will include Horticulturist Jon Colburn of the Frick Art & Historical Center of Pittsburgh, PA, and Kin Schilling, founder of the Cornucopia Project which trains young men and women in organic and sustainable agriculture techniques.

This past year we planted another 3,500 bulbs in the downtown area, including new plantings at the Grapevine, Tuttle Library, and Memorial Park. Memorial Park alone has almost 2500 bulbs which should be spectacular in bloom! Look for brochures at downtown merchants and town hall with a walking tour map of plantings downtown.

All day long Antrim Chamber of Commerce merchants will be offering a free gift or special discount for stopping in, so look for "DaffoDeal" coupons at participating merchants the week before. Already, Tylers Small Engine, Bakery 42, Rick & Diane's, Cutter Flooring, Tenney Farm, and Place in the Woods are committed. Also, get your books back to the Tuttle Library because it's "No Fines Day" for returning overdue books free.

ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED SO FAR:

7:00 – 9:30 May Breakfast, \$7.00, First Presbyterian Church

8:00 – 9:30 Fishing Derby at Mill Pond Memorial Park, ages 15 and under

8:30 Free Clinic: Fly-fishing techniques by professional guide, sponsored by Place in the Woods

9:00 – 9:30 Free Clinic: Shrub Care. Horticulturist Jon Colburn from the Frick Art & Historical Center in Pittsburgh, PA on seasonal shrub care, hosted by Tyler's Small Engine

9:30 – 10:00 Free Clinic: Gardening Equipment. Garden cultivators and yard trimmers, Tyler's Small Engine

9:30 Free Clinic: "Gardening with Kids" by Crista Salamy of Tenney Farm in the Tuttle Library side yard

10:00 Grapevine Family Spring Walk: a five-mile fun walk to raise money for the many Grapevine programs. The public is invited to walk with or without pledges. Meet and registration at the Grapevine parking lot at 9:30—10 a.m.

10:00 Free Clinic & Free Seed Packet: Edmunds ACE Hardware. Clinic topic TBA

10:45 Coffee break at Bakery 42, 46 Main Street

11:00 Ceremonial "Daffodil Cutting" by Kin Schilling, President and founder of the Cornucopia Project of Hancock

11:10 Free Clinic: Organic Gardening. "How Your Organic Garden can Help Save the Planet" by Kin Schilling at the Tuttle Library

1:00 – 3:00 Bike Rodeo at Great Brook School parking lot, sponsored by Antrim Parks & Recreation Department.

Need more information? Check the event page at www.AntrimCC.com, or contact Brian Beihl, Antrim Chamber of Commerce, 588-3014. ☙

BOY SCOUTS CELEBRATE 100 YEARS

Brian Beihl

On a foggy August night in London in 1909, a wealthy Chicago newspaper publisher, William D. Boyce, got lost. A 12-year-old boy wearing a uniform approached Boyce and offered to help him. After arriving at his destination, Boyce offered the young boy a tip. The boy thanked Mr. Boyce, but refused the tip, saying he was, "only doing his good turn." Boyce was very impressed and asked the young man questions about the Boy Scouts, but before he could learn the Scout's name, the young man disappeared into the foggy night.

Six months later on February 8, 1910, William Boyce incorporated the Boy Scouts of America. To this day, no one has ever learned the identity of the Boy Scout who helped Boyce that foggy night, though this young man has become a Scouting legend as the "Unknown Scout" on both sides of the Atlantic.

Antrim Scouts trace their history back to 1919, when we were Troop 1. We have a copy of a service record of Milan Parker, a member of Troop 1 from May 1919 to May 1922, when the troop ceased for a few years. Our records indicated a rekindling of the troop in 1929 as Troop 2. In 1933 Troop 2 was then chartered, or sponsored, by the Myers-Prescott-Olsen American Legion Post 50, with which it has been associated since. Troop 2 has now been continuously registered for 72 years.

LOOKING FOR HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS

Troop 2 has been collecting newspaper clippings, photos, certificates, and other materials dealing with the history of Troop 2. From 1972, there is a good newspaper record, however, the troop is looking for any earlier articles, photos, letters, certificates, or other historical Boy Scout memorabilia. If you have anything of interest, please contact Ed Hebert at 588-2823, Deb Whitney at 588-6761, or Brian Beihl at 588-3014. You may also bring anything you have to our regular meeting, Wednesday at 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the American Legion/Odd Fellows hall on West Street in Antrim.

REUNION PLANNED FOR AUGUST 15

Help us reach our former Scouts who live elsewhere by sending addresses, phone numbers or phone numbers to us at troop2nh@yahoo.com or call Ed Hebert at 588-2823. ☙

GIFFIN'S MOOSE

Lyman Gilmore

When you drive by Place In The Woods on 202 North, take a moment to notice the huge and graceful steel moose sculpture looming over the driveway. Nine and a half feet tall and eleven long, it is the work of John Giffin who with his wife and kids live just across the road.

One chilly afternoon in mid February I sat down with John at their sunny dining room/kitchen table, while his wife Colleen—teacher and Tuttle Library Trustee—tapped away at a computer in the next room, and their three big Labs lay at our feet after an enthusiastically waggy, sniffy welcome. John, 38, loves steel, and ever since he was a boy has relished metal work, its heating, bending, cutting, and welding. Professionally he is a Master GM Tech at Quirk Auto Group on South Willow in Manchester, but in Antrim he is a member of the ZBA (Zoning Board of Adjustment), a restorer of old cars, and an artist. He says that designing and creating are in the family DNA, that his sister is a graphic designer, that they both like the instant gratification of creating something new. He first learned about metal from his father, Hugh, a restorer of MGs, who before he died young in 2001, was also an Anrim ZBA member.

One day a year ago friend and fellow ZBA member John Kendall, who with his wife Diane had just bought and renovated Place In The Woods, came to John Giffin and expressed interest in having a big moose sculpture in front of the store. John leapt at the idea and started creating a moose image, first by hand, next on his computer, then making a three dimensional model one-eighth size, finally laying out the final design on four by eight foot, 400 pound, sheets of 1/4 inch steel. He showed me his huge computer-driven cutting table on which a 4x8' slab of steel

can be carved into delicate shapes.

Although John's moose is made from flat plate, it has a clever three-dimensional look, with broad antlers and long legs. Weighing in at around 700 pounds, the moose was fabricated from eight pieces of steel—body, head, two antlers, and four legs—and is set firmly in the ground welded to a 10 foot I-beam. At first they thought of painting it, but the rust patina is so attractive they left it to weather naturally. It is so big that they couldn't get it out of his garage-workshop without chopping two inches off the legs. While Kendall furnished the steel, Giffin did all the work. An estimated price were it for sale—which it is not—would be in the neighborhood of \$2,000.

John Giffin also creates small, delicate steel silhouette sculptures of wild animals to hang on the wall that are for sale at Place In the Woods. His next large sculpture will be a huge black bear even more three dimensional than his majestic moose. OR



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Brian Beihl

PINEWOOD DERBY WINNERS

The Pack 2 Pinewood Derby was held February 14 at the Pierce School gymnasium in Bennington. In the Tiger Den, 1st place went to David Martin, with 2nd place to Marshall Warren, and 3rd to Owen Lantange. For the Wolf Den, Lucas Blanchette took 1st place, Paul Marchand 2nd, and Garrick Colby 3rd. The Bear Den was led by Maxwell Davie in 1st place, Martin Sweeney 2nd, and Keegan Davis 3rd. For Webelos, who are fourth and fifth graders, the winners were Colin Brinkley 1st place, Jonathan Bara 2nd, and Brendon James 3rd. In the finals, pitting the winners of each den against one another, Colin Brinkley came out on top, followed by Maxwell Davie in 2nd place, Lucas Blanchette in 3rd place, and David Martin in 4th.

WEBELOS "CROSS OVER" TO BOY SCOUT TROOP 2

At this month's Blue & Gold banquet, eight Webelos II Scouts will be crossing over from Pack 2 to Troop 2. These boys include Brendan Anderson, Jonathan Bara, Colin Brinkley, Michael Cobb, Cameron Ibach, Brendon James, Jared Lewis, and George Warren. Among those boys, Brendan Anderson, Jonathan, Colin, Cameron, Brendon James, and Jared, have earned their Arrow of Light, the highest award in Cub Scouts. The Blue & Gold banquet will be held on Sunday, March 28, between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. Thanks are due to Dr. Tom Bara, Fred James, and Yvette Brinkley who helped

guide one of the largest groups of Webelos seen in Antrim & Bennington for many years.

For more information about joining Pack 2, please contact Pack chairperson Tammie Blanchette at 588-2594.

TROOP 2 PARTICIPATES IN SCOUT EXPO APRIL 10

Scouts from throughout the Monadnock Region gather to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America at Scout Expo on Saturday, April 11. The public is encouraged to attend the event, which features troops and packs exhibiting Scoutcraft, games, hands-on activities, and open fire cooking. The Expo will be held at the Keene Recreation Center on Washington Street, just north of downtown. Troop 2 will be exhibiting.

TROOP HOLDS COURT OF HONOR

Scouts earned 38 merit badges and seven rank advancements. Aaron Chase, Life Scout; Sean Campbell, First Class; Justyn Christophers, 2nd Class; Mike Fahrner, First Class; Liam Healey, Tenderfoot; Henry Johnson, Tenderfoot; Mike Murray, Tenderfoot; Russell Warren, Tenderfoot; Morgan Whitney, Tenderfoot. For more information about Troop 2, contact Scoutmaster Brian Beihl at 588-3014. ☀

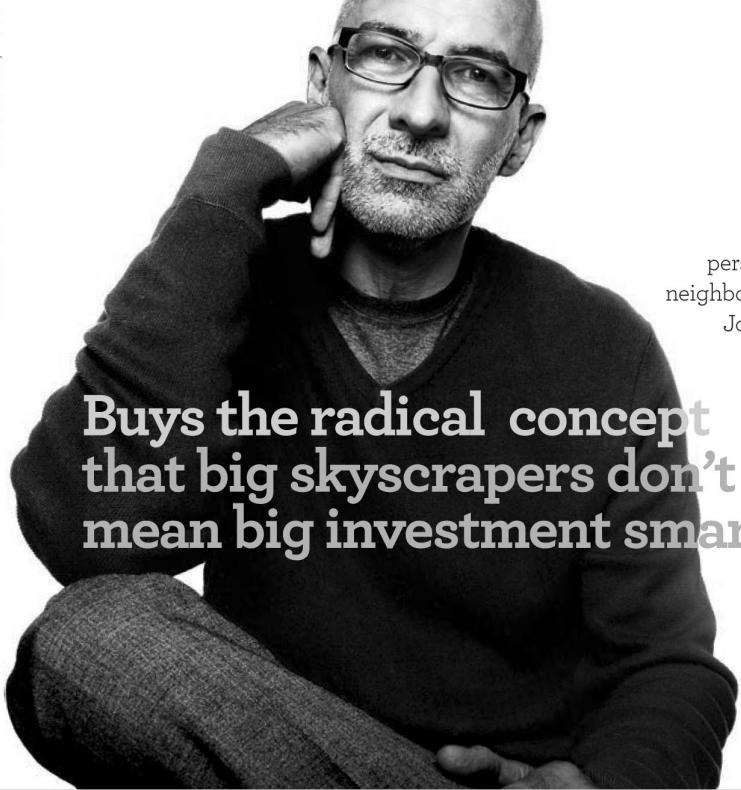
PERFORMANCE • MAY 22

Dana Center, St Anselm College

Glenn Miller Orchestra

Community Bus leaves 6:30 returns 11:30 pm

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THE GRAPEVINE

Kristen Vance

Thanks to a grant from the Sparkplug Foundation, The Grapevine is exploring new ways to generate income with the help of a consultant from Antioch. In addition to looking at some of the more traditional fund raising strategies—fund raising events, planned giving, capital campaigns—we are also considering the benefits of social enterprise, defined as an income-generating initiative with a purpose to both further The Grapevine's mission and raise the funds needed to support our mission.

We are in the early stages of the process and looking to the community for guidance with this project, and we therefore ask that you complete a brief survey available in early March on Survey Monkey and on paper. If we don't have your email address already, you can email thegrapevine@conknet.com and we'll email you back with the link. Or call 588-2620 if you prefer a paper copy and can't find one around town. In order for your responses to be part of this initial phase, please complete and turn in the survey by March 11 (Town Meeting Day).

APPLY FOR FOOD STAMPS, TANF, AND MORE AT THE GRAPEVINE

The Grapevine is part of a pilot project initiated by the NH Department of Health and Human Services to streamline the application process for assistance from the State of NH, including Temporary Aid for Needy Families (TANF), food

stamps, Medicaid, and cash benefits. Apply for assistance at The Grapevine, with help from trained staff, instead of traveling to DHHS in Keene. Call 588-2620 for an appointment.

Summer is Coming! Call now for information about summer camps for your preschooler and school-age children, and to register for summer playgroups. Ask for Beth.

WEEKLY CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

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

- Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 9:30-11:30: Better Beginnings parent-child program
- Wednesday and Friday 9-noon: The Learning Vine preschool
- Friday 10:00-11:30: Better Beginnings for Babies and Toddlers up to age two

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

THE PEOPLE'S SERVICE EXCHANGE

We have over 250 services to choose from, ranging from computer support, yard work, tax preparation and massage, to companionship, resume writing, haircuts and rides. Here's how it works: One hour of service equals one hour of credit called a "time dollar." It's easy to become a member—you can meet with the Exchange coordinator individually or come to the next informational meeting at The Grapevine on April 17 at 11am. Call or email coordinator Gerry Chagnon at 588-2620 or peoplesserviceexchange@hotmail.com for more information.

SECOND MONDAYS WORKSHOPS

- March 8: Pajama Party and Literacy Night! (please see Literacy Week description below). 6-7:30pm.
- April 12th: Tax Preparation Q&A and Money Management with Larry Schwartz, Financial Advisor. 6:30-8:30pm.
- May 10th: TBD (Let us know if you have a workshop you'd like to offer!)

About Second Mondays: Free, all are welcome. Sign up by noon on the Friday before. On-site childcare can be available—let us know you need it when you sign up.

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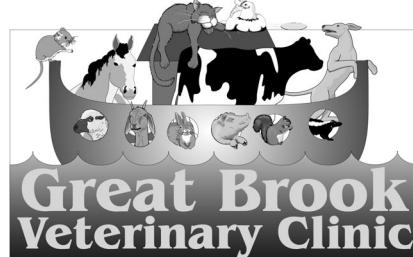


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LITERACY WEEK WITH SCHOLASTIC MARCH 1 THROUGH MARCH 8

The Grapevine and Scholastic are teaming up for a week of Children's Literacy, Fun and Celebration of Great Books!

- March 1–March 5: Scholastic Book Fair, Monday through Friday 9am to noon. Come in and browse the selection, order amazing children's and youth books.
- Monday, Tuesday and Thursday: Parenting Groups focus on Children's Literacy.
- Monday, March 8: Pajama Party and Literacy Night, 6–7:30 pm. Join talented storytellers for an evening of stories and browse the book fair!

STEP

Systematic Training for Effective Parenting at the Hancock Town Library Mondays from 6–8 pm beginning March 15. This 7-session class is facilitated by Ann Falby, former Teaching Director of Happy Valley School. Ann has been teaching this parenting education course for many years because she believes in it. Parents do, too. Says one parent: "This is one parenting class I highly recommend—principles and skills I learned have become core to my parenting and other relationships." In this course participants will:

Learn listening and communication skills that will help enhance their child's self-esteem and self-motivation

Learn and practice skills, including giving logical and natural consequences in response to misbehavior, avoiding conflict struggles, and expressing feelings in a respectful way.

The cost of the workshop is only \$65 (thanks to Ann and the library) and includes the workbook. Partial scholarships are available through The Grapevine if the fee is a hardship. Call The Grapevine to register.

FREEDOM FROM TOBACCO

Tuesday, March 23 from 6-7:30pm. Want to kick the habit? Hear from Cheshire Coalition for Tobacco Free Communities.

APRIL VACATION FUN!

Wednesday, April 21—Open Playroom—9:30–11:30. For infants and children to age 5. Free, drop in.

SPRING DAFFODIL WALK FOR FAMILIES SATURDAY, MAY 1 IN ANTRIM

Tune up your strollers and lace up your walking shoes for The Grapevine's 6th Annual *Spring Walk for Families* on Saturday, May 1 at 10am in Antrim. Meet in The Grapevine parking lot between 9:30–10 to register. This year the walk is part of Antrim Daffodil Day, and follows the Fishing Derby. Look for details in the papers, around town, and on www.antrimnh.org in April.

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.

Community Wood Bank: for those who use wood to heat their home and can't afford to buy it. Call 588-2620 on Mon 9-3, Tue 9-1 and Wed-Fri 9-noon.

Heating Fuel & Electric Assistance applications Thursdays 8:30-4:30. Call 924-2243 or 877-757-7048 for an appointment or The Grapevine for information.

Child & Family Counseling provided by Monadnock Family Services.

Family Conflict Resolution offered by Milford Area Mediation Services.

Help finding meaningful employment: A.C.C.E.S.S. offers support for people with disabilities in their search for meaningful employment.

Help Finding Shelter for families who are homeless or face homelessness.

Healthy Kids Insurance application assistance.

Visitation Site for noncustodial parents and their children.

The Grapevine is a nonprofit service organization located behind the Tuttle Library and serving residents in Antrim, Hancock, Bennington, Francestown and nearby towns. For more information and to register for programs, call 588-2620. Tax deductible contributions are gratefully accepted at PO Box 637, Antrim, or drop by the center at 4 Aiken Street (behind the library). ☰

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