



Vol. 19 #3
June 2010

A CLOUD OVER ANTRIM: THE GIRLS SHELTER AT RISK

Harlow Richardson

The State of New Hampshire is laudably seeking ways to alleviate the current Budget Deficit. Unfortunately, one proposal is to close the three Health and Human Services youth shelters and consolidate their services in a single central facility. The Antrim Girls Shelter, the only one dedicated to sheltering girls, is on the closing list.

The shelter is currently funded by the State of New Hampshire with \$300,000 per year, and this amount is matched by Medicaid. Private support has come from local churches, individual donations of goods or funds, and volunteer help. The Monadnock Tennis Club of Peterborough sponsored a tournament

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EIGHTH ANNUAL GRANGE ART EXHIBIT JUNE 17-20

Beth Merrill

Antrim Grange's eighth annual Spotlight on Community Artists and Artisans exhibit will be held Thursday, June 17 through Sunday, June 20 at the Antrim Grange Hall. Bennington and Antrim amateur and professional artists, as well as any Grange members, are invited to exhibit their works. Antrim, Bennington, and Great Brook students are also encouraged to participate.

Antrim Grange's Art Exhibit program has a three-fold purpose: (1) to encourage local artists by providing exhibit space, (2) to engage the local community in supporting and patronizing local artists, and (3) to swing wide the doors of our historic building to the community.

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RYMES AND ANTRIM

Lyman Gilmore

This is the latest interview in the Antrim Historical Society's "Oral History Project."

Back in 1969, when Jim Rymes walked into our backyard up on High Street and asked if he could sell us propane, I said "sure."

I did not understand until yesterday that we were one of his first customers in what would become forty years later a fuel empire with eleven offices in New Hampshire that now pump, as he put it, "30 million gallons of product." We are still buying his propane, but the reason I phoned him in Texas for an interview yesterday is that he and his wife Carol may be about to donate the beautiful one-hundred-and-twelve-year-old Stone Church on Route 31 in Clinton Village to the Antrim Historical Society.

Jim and Carol's own history is something of a rags-to-riches tale. In January 1969 Jim came home to Arlington, Virginia, from Viet Nam where he had been a Helicopter Crew Chief with 750 combat hours. Carol and their son Jimmy Jr. were living with his parents, and when she heard that if she enrolled Jim in college for the 1969 winter term, and could prove that it would be a hardship to wait until fall of 1969 to enroll, then he could get out of the army three months early. She enrolled him in

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CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL ABSENT

Antrim's dignified and handsome Civil War memorial statue that has stood proudly in front of the Baptist Church since its dedication on July 13, 1892, is absent from its post. Three years ago, when our town administrator discovered that its base had deteriorated and the heavy statue was in danger of falling and breaking, and possibly injuring someone, he wisely decided to have the statue disassembled and stored in the firehouse until it could be restored. Now it's several sections stand in the field behind the firehouse, awaiting restoration. The Historical Society's Thelma Nichols is heading a committee of residents who want to see this fine monument and symbol of Antrim's honored history repaired and returned to its one-hundred-and-eight-year old home.

QQ



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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

Illustration on page 25 by Virginia Dickinson. Photos of Fishing Derby and Rebekah Warren by Lyman Gilmore. Philippines photo by Dan Lechuza.

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

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Gordon Webber, Chair

The Board of Selectman would like to announce the formation of the Budget Advisory Committee. Moderator Bob Flanders has appointed David Boule, Freda Hullet, Thelma Nichols, Kara Penney, Chris Platt, and John Robertson. Eric Tenney will represent the Selectman on the committee. We look forward to working together with the committee and thank them for their commitment.

The Dept. of Labor visited the Town recently and found some safety violations and we have been fined \$200. We are working to correct these problems as quickly as possible. A new eye wash station will be installed at the Transfer Station, and a Plexiglas shield will be installed at the Town Clerk's counter. We have updated the Town Safety Manual and reformed the Safety Committee (known as the Joint Loss Management Program), and we have approved new parking ordinances.

We would again like to thank the voters for supporting the deficit reduction warrant article. We believe we are in a far better financial situation than we were last year, and while we still have a deficit, it is nearly half of what it was six months ago and we anticipate being in the black in 2011.

The forensic audit is ongoing, and while we are frustrated at how long it is taking, we hope to have it finished by mid-summer. The final report will then be made public.

In an effort to reduce costs, the Highway Department has gone to four 10-hour days a week for the summer. Road Agent Chip Craig and Justin Salsbury have recently passed certification to inspect town trucks, and we anticipate cost savings there also.

We had beautiful weather for our Daffodil Day and the Fishing derby. We hope everyone enjoys this summer. ☙

MCH CARDIAC REHAB ALUMNI AT WORLD HEART GAMES

Barbara Dalrymple

Three Antrim cardiac rehab alumni brought home medals from the Olympic-style World Heart Games in Georgia last month: Karen Scott (Silver in Bocce and Bronze in 1 Mile Jog), Mary Barsanti (Participation-Diamond Award in NuStep), and Nandi Barsanti (Gold in Bocce).

Since the program's conception 17 years ago, approximately 1700 men and women have gone through the Cardiac Rehabilitation Program at Monadnock Community Hospital. The program has made an enormous impact on so many lives. Clients are taught how to halt the number one killer, heart disease. Staff help the participants to understand and live with heart disease, while at the same time espousing the benefits of a heart healthy life-style. The program is intended to sustain and improve participant's quality of life. Staff and clients work together towards the goal of optimal health. ☙

TRENDS OF FASHION REDUX

Janet MacLachlan

As the three-alarm fire raged through one of Antrim's oldest building—built in 1846—hundreds of spectators watched the blaze from across Main Street on the Tuttle Library lawn. It was the evening of February 8th, and a cold north wind blew the smoke down the street. Watching along with the others was Paula Brissette, owner of the Trends of Fashion beauty salon located on the first floor of the burning building. When asked later for her thoughts at that time, she said she was just numb, hardly able to believe what she was seeing. Her years of hard work, her dreams, and the successful business she had built up over the five years since she opened her salon on Main Street, were disappearing before her eyes. It wasn't your usual beauty salon with glitz and glamour, but rather a warm, inviting, eclectic combination of cozy sofas, and chairs with unusual and antique memorabilia on the walls. It was an assembly of artifacts that Paula had collected over the years or had been given by friends and customers, and she treasured all of them. Her father, whom she had recently lost, had also contributed much to her salon, and memories of him were all around her there. It was not just a place to go to have your hair cut, but a gathering spot where you felt welcomed by the cozy decor and Paula's warm greeting and concern for your comfort and well being. All of the ladies working with her were caring professionals who made you feel right at home.

Window boxes filled with colorful flowers were the first thing you saw when you stepped on the front porch of the building in the spring, summer, and fall. A few comfortable chairs were also there where you could rest and watch the traffic and pedestrians pass by on Main Street. Paula obviously wanted to create an air of welcome, an ability she has in addition to being a wonderful hairdresser.

This was not her first salon. She had been on her own for fifteen years, starting first in a small shop in Bennington where she worked for ten years before opening the much larger salon on Main Street in Antrim on April 1, 2005. This was a return to Antrim for her first job was working for Shear Locks on the Main Street in 1992.

Now she is making another start in Antrim. The old Trends of Fashion sign, rescued after the fire, adorns her new smaller shop in the wing of the old building that burned. A firewall saved this wing containing Bakery 42 and an empty office, now Paula's new shop. Paula and a smaller complement of hairdressers were back at work in a very short time, having been able with the help of many friends to furnish and supply the new shop with the necessary accouterments and to be back in the hairdressing business, and making her customers happy and well groomed.

Though only thirty-eight years of age, Paula has lived a full and rewarding life, in part because she has a kind and generous nature. She has made lots of friends who have come to her aid in this critical time. She has helped many people in need, such as the patients at Crotched Mountain Rehabilitation Center, as well as homebound people who can no longer travel to her shop. She

finds pleasure in doing what she can to help others and bring some joy into their lives. Paula was one of seven children, born in West Deering and growing up in Bennington and Antrim. She feels thankful for her own two children and is very proud of them and their accomplishments. Antrim is also proud of her ability to put her loss behind her and start anew with high hopes for success.



A TRUE COMMUNITY

Alan Fahrner, Acting Minister Antrim Church of Christ

In one of his less jaded moments, the "Teacher" of Ecclesiastes shared this thought: "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up!" (Eccl. 4:9-10, NIV)

It would be natural—when a father loses a battle with brain cancer and his daughter, shortly thereafter, is killed in a tragic automobile accident—to "pity" the family those calamities fell upon. However, Solomon wisely understood what was truly to be pitied—falling with no one to help us up.

From the moment Larry was first diagnosed with cancer—to the day he breathed his last with friends and family by his side—to that dark, rainy morning when the awful news about Bekah was delivered—to the moment the last person slowly shuffled away from the grave where father and daughter were laid to rest...

For that whole time there have been myriad people in Antrim and the surrounding towns who have been there to lift the Warren family up. The Warrens and the Antrim Church of Christ thank all of you—and wish we could mention everyone by name—but there are too many. The outpouring of love (in both tangible and intangible ways) has come from schools, community organizations, the towns themselves, churches, local businesses, the media, and, of course, family and friends. Without you the Warrens truly would deserve pity—but with you they have been able to cope with tremendous loss and have started the healing that your continued concern and caring will sustain.

Thank you. Just as the inhabitants of a house make it a home, the residents of a region make it a community—and we could not ask to live in a better one.

God's blessings on you all.



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

A BRIEF LOOK AT OUR SCHOOLS

Mary Allen, ConVal School Board

Sometimes shorter is better. Instead of focusing on one topic this time, here are some ConVal School District “news briefs.”

Two new principals will be joining the district next fall. Sue Dell is retiring from the high school in June. She’s been such a fixture there it’s hard to think of ConVal without her. And the district is losing its other “Sue” when Sue Copley leaves Peterborough Elementary School at the end of this school year.

Separate search committees were formed. The high school search team worked with a recruiting firm to make sure that the candidate pool was as wide and as talented as possible. The PES team, with help from the district’s personnel director, cast its nets closer to home, hoping to find the strongest candidates in New Hampshire and neighboring states. And in both cases, our new principals were found close to home.

Brian Pickering was the unanimous selection for the high school job. He’s the current principal of Monadnock High School in Swanzey. He has also been the assistant principal at Monadnock, was its athletic director, and has a teaching background in physical education. He has degrees from Plymouth State and Keene State, and he lives in Drewsville, NH.

Benjamin Loi, Assistant Principal at South Londonderry Elementary School, was the unanimous choice to take over the reins at PES. Loi has been in his current position for four years. He has degrees from Notre Dame College and the University of New Hampshire and has taught first and second grades at Pelham Elementary School. He lives in Goffstown.

After the bond vote failed in March, attention shifted quickly to identifying the highest priority infrastructure and repair projects on a long, long list of “things that need fixing” in our schools. Using funds from the upcoming 2010-11 budget, a capital reserve fund, and a special warrant article, the district has enough money to tackle two elementary school roof replacements, upgrade the high school to comply with all Life Safety codes, and fix the disability access problems in the high school (excluding the gym wing).

Approximately \$562,000 will be earmarked for those projects, which should be completed over the summer months. Also high on the priority list were ventilation projects at the high school and South Meadow, but funds for those projects are not available at this time. In addition, the normal maintenance budget for 2010-11 will be about a third of what it has been.

A few of the items on the Life Safety and disability access list are eligible for partial reimbursement by the state. Most of the needed work is not eligible.

Antrim’s woes with its school payments appear to be clearing up. After falling behind several months in late 2009, the town paid its debt in late December. So far, the town has been only a few days late in making its monthly payments to the district.

The Selectmen’s Advisory Committee and the ConVal School Board will be studying the district’s Articles of Agree-

ment again this year. The School Board will focus on Article 5, which sets the configuration—the number and size—of district schools. A similar study committee did not recommend changes last year, but continued concern over declining enrollments has prompted another look. Middle and high schools may be studied this time, as well as the eight elementary schools.

The Selectmen’s Advisory Committee (SAC) has representatives from each of the nine ConVal towns. At a spring organization meeting, the SAC decided to focus on three articles.

Working with the school board as well as independently, Selectmen will address Article 5 concerning district configuration. In addition, SAC will look at Article 2 which determines the number of school board members and how they are apportioned. And it will examine Article 8 which sets the funding formula used by the district for assessing the towns. Currently, the formula calls for 50 percent of the funding to be based on a town’s enrollments and 50 percent on the equalized assessment value of all properties in a town.

Mike Genest is Antrim’s representative to the Selectmen’s Advisory Committee.



FRANKLIN PIERCE LAKE ASSOCIATION

Robin Loveland

The Franklin Pierce Lake Association (FPLA) was formed in 2009 to promote the protection, careful use, and shared enjoyment of Franklin Pierce Lake. Our seven member Board of Directors has initiated a membership drive this spring, and membership is open to all households on or with shared access to the lake. Annual household dues for 2010 are \$10. This money will go toward programs described below.

If you are interested in joining you can get an application from the website at fplake.org. In June representatives will be distributing brochures and applications, and the first membership meeting is planned for Saturday, Aug 14 at 9 am.

We have already started the NH Department of Environmental Services Weed Watcher Program and will be implementing the NH Lake Association’s Lake Host Program at the Manahan Boat Ramp for the second year this summer. More volunteers are needed for both of these programs. This summer we plan to evaluate what water testing should be done to properly monitor the health of the lake.

In addition to these programs, we provide a forum for sharing interests, including sailing, bird watching, kayaking, wake boarding, erosion, and geese contamination. For further information, to become a member, or to volunteer to help with our programs, go to the web site at fplake.org or contact Robin Loveland at 478-1344.



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.

Where Are They? ANTRIM'S WORLD WAR II VETERANS

Dick Winslow

As we approach the 65th anniversary of the ending of World War II, let us recall: one hundred eleven Antrim natives, including five women, were military participants. Their names are listed on a plaque in Memorial Park. Of those listed, only three now live in Antrim—Arthur Bryer and Tom Leonard army veterans, Martin Nichols a navy veteran. All three saw serious combat action, Arthur and Tom in Europe, Martin in the South Pacific. Four of those whose names are listed died during the war—Roger Hill in Anzio, Italy, where he is buried; Albert Poor piloting a bomber on a training mission; Paul Prescott, a gunner shot down over Nazi Germany on his 24th mission (had he been able to complete 25 missions, he would have been rotated home); and Robert Thibodeau, an anti-aircraft gunner on a PT Boat in the Pacific.

We know of a number of those listed who have died since the war, Judith Pratt and David Hurlin, for instance, and we know of several who are alive but living elsewhere, including Winslow Caughey and Phil Lang,

but there are many whose status we do not know.

Then there are veterans who came to Antrim after the war. Some of these have been well known in town, including Bud Hardwick and Russ Russell, both recently deceased, but there must be others whom we may know without being aware of their WW II service.

It is difficult to identify (a) listed veterans who are deceased but who resided elsewhere; (b) listed veterans who are alive but living elsewhere; and (c) veterans living in Antrim who moved here after the war. Would any of our readers be interested in seeking answers? We would publish them.

All of the above takes on poignancy in the face of the speed with which WW II veterans, nationally, are passing away. The Veteran's Administration says that about 1300 are dying every day.

Editor's note: Dick Winslow and his brother Ed, who with their families summered in Antrim from the 1920s – Dick lives here now, and Ed owns Alabama Farm and visits frequently – both served with the U.S. Navy during WWII. ☉

TABS FOR TED (AND KIDS)

Ted Brown

Please save those pull-tabs on the top of aluminum cans and bring them to Edmunds Hardware where I collect them for the Shriners who sell them and use 100% of the income to transport children to and from Shriner hospitals. The tabs may be small, but they are made of high quality aluminum that in bulk have

considerable value. The Shriners make up the colorful band—members wear red fez hats—that plays in our Home & Harvest parade every fall. The Shriners are an old philanthropic organization that operates children's hospitals throughout the country, including Boston and Springfield, Massachusetts. ☉

Antrim Grange

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We will celebrate the Evening Gala on Friday, June 18th, 7–9 pm with refreshments and musical entertainment, with many of the exhibiting artists present.

The exhibit will feature a People's Choice contest whereby a winner will be selected by popular votes of guests and patrons. Viewing hours are: Thursday 3–8 pm, Friday Evening Gala with live music 7–9 pm, Saturday 10 am–3 pm, and Sunday noon – 4 pm with Contest Awards at 3:30 pm.

For more information contact Beth Merrill at 588-6615 or log onto the website: antrim.nhgrange.org. ☉

TWO ANTRIM WWII VETS HONORED

Two Legionnaires were given citations in honor of 60 continuous years as members of the American Legion Post 50 in Antrim. Each also was given Honorary Life Membership in the American Legion.

Phillip Lang and Arthur Bryer were honored by Commander Steve Roy for long term service to their country and to the Legion.

Lang is a WW II U.S. Army veteran. He served as Post Commander and was the Finance officer for over 35 years. In 2002 he was selected as the Department of N.H. Legionnaire of the Year. Phillip also served as Liaison Officer to the Boy Scout troop that was sponsored by the Post.

Arthur Bryer is a WW II Army veteran as well. He served as Post Commander, District 2 Commander and Post Sergeant at Arms.

They truly exemplify the Legion's pride in their "Service to America". ☉



Phillip Lang and Commander Steve Roy



Arthur Bryer and Commander Steve Roy

AVENUE A TEEN CENTER NEWS

Dave Kirkpatrick

What's new at Avenue A? That's always a somewhat challenging question. Things change constantly, and yet still seem to stay the same. So what's REALLY new, as in NEWS? Let's see...

New hours are going into effect at Avenue A beginning in June. As the weather gets warmer, the needs of our Teen population change predictably. There's less demand for after school hours and more for evenings and weekends, so that's where the focus will be through the Summer, possibly into the Fall. Open hours are Wednesday 6-9, Friday 6-11. Saturdays, both afternoons and eves, are available to the TAC Teens to make plans. This means there's some flexibility and options for weekend hours, but there's also an expectation of participation from the teens and community members to make that happen. Mondays 3-6 are reserved exclusively for TAC and Community Service projects to benefit Avenue A and others. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come in on Mondays to participate in the success of Avenue A.

A big part of the weekends focus will be on scheduled events, trips and projects. In the suggestion box are things like beach days, cookouts, rock climbing, concerts and dances in the park, movies, and amusement park trips. Of course things that have been successful in the past, like sailing and skateboarding, will continue. It's mainly up to the Teens to

determine which activities they'd like to make happen, and as times for weekend events will be quite flexible it's important for both Teens and parents to Get In The Loop to find out what's going on. Contact details are below.

Thanks to some generous donations, and the help of two interns - Rikki Welch from New England College and David Carter from Franklin Pierce University - the Teen Action Committee and friends had a very successful spring fundraising season. Rikki and David organized yard sale and car wash fundraisers respectively that together brought in over \$1300 for Avenue A. Students from NEC as well as members of our community volunteered time to help make these events so successful.

A couple new activities have been started at Avenue A recently. We received a professional quality weight bench as a donation and has been set up for use in the teen center during hours. This could be made available to small groups that would like to work out outside our regular hours. And Dance Party has been added as a regular event on the fourth Friday from 7-9. A new computer setup allows anyone to make a playlist for this event, and Teens are encouraged to put together their own lists and themes for Dance Club. The rule to know is that the "DJ's" should make their playlists in advance – nobody fools around with the stereo once Dance Party starts!

For information about Avenue A, weekend events, hosting a Dance Party, or how to help out, you can Get In The Loop in a number of ways. Send a request to teencenter@tds.net to get on the mailing list. (Verizon users, use an alternate address, your service rejects ours.) You can find and join the Avenue A Teen Center club on Facebook for regular updates. Better still, get involved in your community and in your teen center by becoming a participating member of the TAC or Steering Group.

Contact Dave Kirkpatrick at 588-3334 with any questions, comments, or suggestions.

QQ

Now Accepting New Patients

ANTRIM MEDICAL GROUP

A Full-Service Family Medical Practice

The Antrim Medical Group, a satellite office of Monadnock Community Hospital, has been offering professional and friendly patient care for many years. The practice offers complete medical care for all ages... from the very young to the elderly. Call us today to meet our highly qualified medical staff.



Dr. Carrie Klonel



Chris Jacobsen, ARNP

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Fishing Derby – John Kazlauskas

THE BIG SHORT

Inside the Doomsday Machine

by Michael Lewis

Reviewed by Missy Taylor

How could an overheated real estate market in a few states result in a financial collapse that threatened the stability of the US and global markets? In *The Big Short*, Michael Lewis deftly explains how the crisis happened, drawing the reader in through the colorful portraits of a few individuals who saw it coming, bet against the conventional wisdom of the big players on the Street, and made fortunes when the bottom fell out. By focusing on a few of the perhaps twenty or so players whom he thinks foresaw the debacle, Lewis hooks the reader with his fascinating and humorous descriptions of these men and their often outsized personalities. As he weaves his tale and brings us through financial machinations involving "synthetic CDOs," "tranches," and "credit default swaps," his skill in making complex financial transactions understandable and his delight in the oddness of his characters make reading this book a very enjoyable and enlightening way to make sense of what happened in the financial markets in the last few years.

Lewis' thesis is that the men he profiles are all outsiders of some kind: Steve Eisman, of FrontPoint Partners, a rude, cynical New Yorker who had helped build the subprime lending market when he was at Oppenheimer, but became disillusioned and went on to set up his own hedge fund to short (bet that the price would go down) what he had previously been selling; Dr. Michael Burry, a one-eyed, California neurologist with undiagnosed Asperger's who quit medicine to run his own stock fund; Greg Lippman, a brash and frequently obnoxious bond trader for Deutsche Bank; and a trio of nice young men who started a fund, Cornwall Capital, with \$110,000 in a shed in the back of a friend's house in Berkeley, California, based on the premise that they would do the opposite of what everyone else was doing. The author describes them as "a garage band

hedge fund." All were minor players in the subprime mortgage market, but Lewis skillfully uses their odyssey to tell a fascinating and dramatic story, culminating in the meltdown of 2007.

Lewis points out that Wall Street's traditional profit center, stock and bond brokering, had become less profitable, partly due to competition from the internet. Creating new financial instruments based on underlying subprime mortgage loans—collateralized debt obligations (CDOs) and credit default swaps (a type of insurance to cover losses in the event of default of certain securities)—became a new, very lucrative profit center for the banks. Lewis calls it "complicated financial stuff being dreamed up for the sole purpose of lending money to people who could never repay it." The banks became dependent on income from the creation of more and more layers of securitization without fully assessing the risk. Lewis notes that the largest investment banks were once partnerships and theorizes that had the partners been exposed to the risk of default and failure as they had in the past, the financial meltdown would never have happened. Once they went public, however, the risk was passed to their shareholders (and subsequently, the taxpayer) and the pressure to deliver quarterly earnings came to dominate their dealings.

After AIG (American International Group, the insurance company that suffered a liquidity crisis in 2008 and was bailed out by the government) stopped buying subprime CDOs, managers like Wing Chau of the investment firm Harding Advisory appeared. These managers were paid a percentage off the top, another percentage off the bottom and, in cases like Chau's, weren't required to bear any of the risk themselves. Lewis faults their incentive system that rewarded volume, propelling the managers to keep churning out more and more product. To fuel the money machine that was making people like Chau very rich, credit default swaps such as the ones the book's central characters were using to

bet against the subprime mortgage market, "filtered by the CDOs, were being used to replicate bonds backed by actual home loans," all unregulated and without anyone really understanding just how much risk was building in the system.

All of this was enabled by the credit rating agencies, primarily Standard & Poor's and Moody's. They looked at levels (called a tranche) of subprime loans that were individually rated triple-B, the riskiest rating, as reorganized by Wall Street into a CDO, and proceeded to pronounce 80 percent of the bonds in the group triple-A. That allowed the risk to be passed on by CDO managers to institutional investors—pension funds, insurance companies, etc.—who were limited to buying triple A securities.

Lewis is quite damning in his assessment of the credit agencies. "To judge from their behavior, all the rating agencies worried about were maximizing the number of deals they rated for Wall Street investment banks, and the fees they collected from them." They accepted the economic models of the banks that asked and paid them for the ratings. Another disturbing piece of information that Eisman learned about the rating agencies was that their assumption about the underlying subprime mortgage loans.

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Fishing Derby – Hunter Salamy

ANTRIM POLICE

Officer Jason Le Pine

So far this year we have seen a large number of drug related incidents ranging from possession, to sales, to accidental overdoses. Drug use is on the rise and children as young as 12 are not only having contact with illegal drugs, but are beginning to experiment with them. Besides illegal drugs, children and young adults are turning to prescription drugs and over the counter (OTC) medications to get high, as they are readily available in their own homes. Parents should be cognizant of their children's activities and be familiar with certain signs and symptoms associated with drug use.

Parents should be aware and be able to identify drug paraphernalia that are used to consume, conceal, or produce illegal drugs. These can be difficult to identify as they are often disguised as everyday items, such as pens, markers, and water bottles containing hidden compartments. Marijuana pipes, commonly made of blown glass, may be multicolored and often carry a disclaimer stating they are used for tobacco products only.

Parents should also be aware of behavioral changes in their children. Adolescents and young adults change as they mature, and distinguishing between normal changes and those due to drug use may be difficult. Parents should take note of any significant changes in friends, declining grades, school absence, poor grooming, secretive behavior, use of code words with friends, excessive borrowing of money, hostility toward parents, increased eye-drop use, and an increase of smell masking agents such as incense, room air fresheners, perfumes, mouthwash, and breath-mints.

Aside from illegal drugs, more teens and young adults are turning to prescription medication and OTC drugs than any illegal drug other than marijuana. They find these drugs easily accessible, and they may believe they are a safe way to get high, when in fact a single large dose of a prescription medication or OTC drug can cause breathing difficulty, heart failure, seizures, and death. Parents should keep prescription medications in a secure place and monitor any OTC drug use by their children.

Parents should talk to their children about all medication use, and they should immediately address unusual behavior. If parents suspect their child is taking illegal drugs or has a drug problem, they have the option of having their child take a drug test. Parents can also get information on drug abuse programs from their family doctor or local hospital. ☙



HOME & HARVEST FESTIVAL
SEPT 17-19

Antrim's Girls Shelter

continued from page 1

that netted sixteen thousand dollars to help renovate and relocate the kitchen. That was followed by an anonymous donation of ten thousand dollars. The New Hampshire Motor Speedway donated a Rope Course.

What does this funding do for the state? The Shelter is an accredited school for girls 12–18 years of age and includes room and board. The curriculum meets state standards including Art and Physical Education. The most important part of the Shelter's mission is to protect "at risk" girls who have been subjected to abuse of a sexual nature but also includes drugs, alcohol, and domestic violence. How do you dispel the girls' armor of distrust and fear? Replace distrust with trust and fear with care. The staff of twenty-three team members plus volunteers provide 24/7 attention. Teaching responsibility and demonstrating that behavior has consequences are vital. The Shelter rules are strict, but adherence to them over time leads to self control and self esteem.

Is there a bright side to this cloud? Perhaps there is. An amended bill was recently passed by the House Finance committee and is currently working its way through the legislative process. Let's hope the legislature passes this bill and saves the Antrim Girls Shelter. ☙



Photo by V. Dickinson

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TATTERED SUITCASE HOLDS TREASURE OF TOWN'S PAST

Sandy Snow

About a year ago a conversation about the American Legion's periodic newsletter, sent to Antrim service men and women during World War II, led to the discovery of historical significance for Antrim.

Martin Nichols and Wayne Nichols (no relation) were discussing the newsletter. Martin said he didn't recall getting them when he was in the Navy. Eventually the conversation led to Martin's saying there were some old letters in his barn which he had mailed home during World War II. Martin dug out an old cardboard suitcase which turned out to be filled with hundreds of letters he had mailed to his mother while he was in the Navy.

Wayne felt these letters might be of some significance. He took a few to show to his wife, Thelma, who is on the program committee for the Antrim Historical Society. She, in turn, showed them to Nina Harding, who is the town's walking encyclopedia of Antrim history. After reading some of the letters, Nina recognized their importance as a vivid portrait of the life of a sailor during World War II.

Fresh out of high school, Martin joined the Navy in 1943 and served until May, 1946. He wrote to his mother almost every day, sometimes twice a day. In fact, he occasionally sent two letters in one envelope. In total, Nina believes the suitcase, which now sits in her house, holds 376 letters, plus some post cards.

The mail details his day-to-day life in the service. He was trained as an electrician. He reports to his mother his high grades as he moved through the various stages of training, which wasn't bragging, just keeping her posted on his life in the military. Much of what he writes about during his training period is rather mundane: how he washes his clothes in a bucket; how he hitch hikes to a town or another camp; how he lends out money to other trainees until payday rolls around.

After training, he was assigned to LSM 44 (landing ship medium) that eventually engaged in support of the fighting on Iwo Jima. The ship was used to transport as many as six tanks to the beach. The crew "affectionately" called the LSM "Latest Suicide Mechanism" because of the dangers the crew had to endure.

Although trained as an electrician, the skipper of the LSM promoted Martin to Yeoman because of Martin's understanding of the business side of the ship.

Martin downplays the importance of his letters, but Nina contends they are of great historical significance for the town as it would be very difficult today to find such detailed documentation of the life of a sailor who served more than sixty years ago.

To date she has transcribed about two thirds of the letters. But the work doesn't stop there as she passes them on to Thelma and Missy Taylor, also on the Historical Society's Board, who copy them into a computer where they can be preserved. Nina says she leaves out only the personal details between Martin and his mother; everything else is faithfully recorded.

Because Martin was a Yeoman, he had access to more of the details of the operation of the ship. He also was savvy enough to leave out news that he felt would be censored and then reported on them later. He often numbered his letters so his mother would know if one he had written didn't get to her. He also occasionally drew pictures in them which Nina says were quite good. In addition to the letters, Martin took many photographs which add another dimension to the letters.

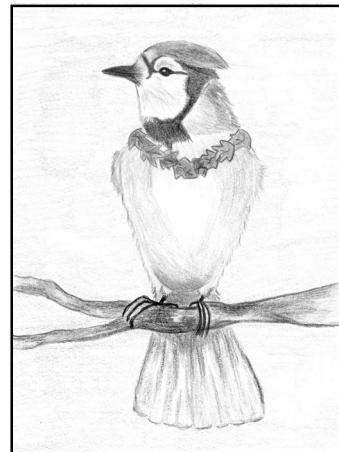
Nina hopes that the letters and the old suitcase eventually will become part of the Historical Society's archives. Nina feels certain the letters and pictures are worthy of a book, and she wants to explore that possibility. ☙

LOCAL AUTHOR HAS CHILDREN'S BOOK PUBLISHED

Antrim's Hope Ann Phillips's has written and illustrated a children's book about some hungry birds living in a secret valley, and how two of the birds set out to correct a wrong they have committed. *Robin Bird and Chick-a-Dee De's Journey for Truth* (ISBN # 978-1-4489-2509-4) can be ordered now on the publisher's website, www.publishamerica.net, and will soon be available at the Tuttle Library, Barnes & Noble, and the Toadstool in Peterborough.

Hope Phillips writes that she has lived in Antrim for about twenty years, has a husband and four children, and has always wanted to write and illustrate a children's story. "I have been writing seriously for about ten years. I have always loved drawing and painting and was fortunate enough to study with local artists Russ Russell and Lois Harriman."

The author can be reached at: (603) 588-3259. ☙



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HOW DANILO LECHUZA AT THE ANTRIM MARKETPLACE TAUGHT ME TO RESPECT THE GOVERNOR OF THE PHILIPPINES

Lyman Gilmore

Danilo Lechuza has gotten to know just about everyone in town, at least most of those who visit the Antrim Marketplace, as I do every day. And a great many Antrimites not only know Dan but have come to depend on his friendly smile and helpfulness when they are shopping at the store. So lots of us missed him in December when he went to his home in the Philippines for Christmas. When he returned, I learned something about my family that I had not known.

Although my family had a long and intimate—I have thought unfortunate—relationship with the Philippines, I knew little about that country, and I certainly never met a Filipino. Never, that is, until I got to know Danilo “Dan” Lechuza.

Last month, over a good lunch of beef, shrimp, and fried rice at Antrim’s Ginger House, Dan and I talked about the history of his country. It occurred to me that in order for a Filipino to become an American citizen, as Dan is working to do, he or she must know something of our Constitution and United States history. That is a reasonable requirement, yet I wondered how people coming here from the Philippines feel about how unfamiliar we are with their constitution and history. Dan is a good person to talk with about this as he taught history at St. Paul College in the Philippines for ten years before coming to Antrim.

Dan, who is better with chopsticks than I am, explained that the Philippines is an archipelago of seven thousand islands that had been owned and ruled by Spain for three hundred years, since Magellan came in 1521. After the United States defeated Spain in the Spanish American War in 1898, we took ownership of the Philippines. At first the Philippine people, who had hated the three hundred years of Spanish rule and who had supported the Americans in their battle with Spain, fighting alongside US soldiers, expected to be given their independence. But when the US set up its own government to own and rule the islands, Filipino patriots—like our

own of 1776—rebelled and began what became known as the Philippine War of Independence, or according to the US government, the “Philippine Insurrection.” President McKinley and his government in Washington wanted to expand US power in the Pacific and control the rich natural resources of the Philippines, and bring civilization to its dark-skinned people. “The White Man’s Burden,” an 1899 poem by Rudyard Kipling exhorting the US to rule the backward Philippine people for their improvement, was interpreted by many in the US as a justification for our imperialism, which my dictionary defines as “the policy, practice, or advocacy of extending the power and dominion of a nation especially by direct territorial acquisition.”

Interestingly, others in the US strongly opposed American imperialism and colonialism in the Philippines by organizing The American Anti-Imperialist League, including Mark Twain, William Jennings Bryan, Andrew Carnegie, and the great American philosopher, William James, who wrote at the time, “God damn the US for its vile conduct in the Philippine Isles.”

Beginning in 1899, the war took 126,000 US troops two years and much brutal slaughter and cruel treatment of Filipino civilians, including the destruction of whole villages and torture (water-boarding), to defeat the Philippine rebellion. While about 4,000 American soldiers were killed, the Philippine dead included 20,000 military and 250,000 to one million civilians.

As we finished our tea, Dan described how the Spanish had created a rigid class society, with the upper class “Ilustrados” and the Catholic Priests running the country and monopolizing all formal education in the country, while the lower class peasants, the “Indios,” remained essentially unschooled, illiterate, and powerless. At first, when the American Philippine War ended in 1902 and the victorious Americans created their own colonial government in the capital,

Manila, many Filipinos were resentful about US reluctance to share power. However, gradually the US began to work toward Philippine independence, all the while improving the economy, health care, and especially education for all the people.

And this is where my family’s “unfortunate” relationship with the Philippines enters. I have long been embarrassed, even ashamed, that my great uncle (my father’s father’s brother) had been the Vice Governor, and then the Governor General, in what I thought to be the US imperialist, colonial government of the Philippines from 1922 to 1930, serving under three Republican presidents, Warren G. Harding (1921-1923), Calvin Coolidge (1923-1929), and Herbert Hoover (1929-1933). I mentioned this to Dan with some trepidation, but he gave me an unexpected view of Eugene Gilmore’s administration in the Philippines. To my surprise, he told me Gilmore was respected throughout his country for expanding universal education—now 90% of Filipinos are literate—and for helping the Philippines move toward self-government, achieving commonwealth status in 1934, and complete independence in 1946 after World War II. He told me that in fact several streets and buildings in Manila are named after Gilmore, and when he went home for Christmas last December, he brought back a couple photographs to prove it.

Our lunch was over, Dan walked back to the Marketplace, and I drove off feeling better about, even some pride in, my family’s relationship with the Philippines.



TIMBER LANES AND ANIMAL TRAILS

Peter Gagne

The skid-road we were walking on was an old one, probably better than ten years. It was once used to "skid," or drag, logs out of the woods which is where the term "skid road" came from. Now days loggers skid logs out of the woods with big tractor-like machines called "skidders," knocking down brush and small trees and making skid roads. In earlier days folks used oxen and horses to get their timber out of the woods and to the mills to build their homes and barns, and to supply themselves with cordwood to burn during the cold months. Once the humans are done with these roads, they fast become timber-lanes for forest animals that love the easy walking these old logging trails offer, and use them as we do our highways.

As we eased along this timber-lane the evidence of moose stood out. Their huge footprints were everywhere, and as we crested a small knoll on the backside of the Cady George Swamp sitting just above Gregg Lake, we were sharing this old skid road with a big cow moose and her twin calves. Moose find the brush and new young trees growing along skid roads an easy snack, and they spend years in and around the old skid roads until the roads become overgrown.

The next sign of traffic was evidence of a black bear. It was obvious that he had filled his belly to the brim from all the blackberry bushes that had grown just off the edge of the main road, and he had made his sign by leaving a big old scat pile right

there in the middle of the road. Our two dogs found the scat pile impressive and felt the need to roll in it. Nancy and I found it less impressive and looked forward to getting to the edge of the swamp so the dogs could take a swim and rid themselves of the bear scat delight. As we wandered a bit farther we came across the well-cut trail of several beaver skidding their own wood supply from the edge of the old skid road to the swamp. Beaver form their own smooth trails to get at the young trees that grow along the old roads as well as the larger clear-cuts left by loggers. They do such a good job that it makes for easy walking for us from main road to the swamp, like an exit off the highway. We wandered on down the beaver trail, and as the dogs rejoiced in a swim we took a sit and just admired the beauty of the day. With the dogs watered, wet, and happily rid of the bear's calling card, we chose a deer trail that headed up the side of the mountain to a nice stand of Red Oaks. Oaks provide deer with some of their favorite food, and because they need water every day, it was easy to follow their route from the edge of the stream that led out of the swamp up into the oak grove. Deer tend to have a home area like we do, and they leave plenty of trails to come and go from home. Deer trails range all over the woods, and deer cover several miles a day as they search for food, visit other deer, or take a little wander to an open field that, after a long winter of twigs, old acorns, and hemlock, offers them beautiful and tasty green grass and clover.

The trail we chose out of the oak forest led us down to such a field. The evidence of how much animal traffic there is in a field is overwhelming if you can get to a high point and look down into it. There can be so many different animal highways, byways, mainways, and side trails that it can be overwhelming for a human to figure out. The animals that use the trails understand them like you and I use a compass or GPS. Each trail has a purpose, and each has a beginning and an end. For some residents, the field trails mean the beginning of the end. Mice, voles, and chipmunks that love the grasses and roots of the vegetation in fields leave telltale signs for fox, coyotes, and fisher cats looking for their next supper. We imagine that hawks and eagles soaring above the fields watch with a grin as one of these little critters leaves his hole in the ground, takes a little walk on his path to the super market, and ouch! That's that.

Leaving the field we picked up another log-road that led down a hollow and offered an excellent hike through a mixed stand of hardwoods and softwoods. The logger had done a fine job on this timber lot, and I chatted away with Nancy about the great avenues that logging roads, skid trails, and animal paths offer to those of us who love to hike in the woods. Folks seldom think how that trail they are wandering on got there.

They say all roads are paved with good intentions. I am not so sure about that, but I know all roads lead somewhere, and one good intention of those who wander a wood road is to think about how that road got there. It is seldom that something humans do works well with what wild animals do. But both walk trails though woods and fields with their own intentions, wild animals for food and shelter, humans for peaceful pleasure. Both good intentions.

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CAPTAIN KID

Ed Winslow

For the last year of World War II, I was Captain of a Destroyer Escort. After the surrender of Japan we were sent to Samoa and there received orders to search the islands south of the equator between Samoa and Pitcairn Island to make sure that no missing Air force or Navy fliers were marooned on them. This was a huge task since there are several hundred islands in an area two-thirds the size of the continental United States.

Our orders were to put a search party on each island, but the only boat we had was the standard 26-foot motor whaleboat. It was a sturdy, heavy open boat but was not designed to put landing parties on beaches, and clearly it would be extremely helpful to have a small dinghy aboard. Dinghies were not items that the Navy would supply, and I guess I led the Chief Boatswains Mate to believe that if he could scrounge one up it would be OK.

After we sailed I learned that a nine-foot dinghy was stowed on board and about noon we received a radio message from the Admiral commanding the base at Samoa reporting that his granddaughter's dinghy was missing and did we know anything about it. I gulped, but felt I had no choice but to assume we had some other kid's dinghy and sent back a one-word reply, "Negative."

The islands we were to search varied in size from spits of land to as large as ten miles long, some single and some in groups of two or more, some barren, and some with vegetation but treeless, and some with sixty to eighty foot trees. Most of them had an area along the shore

where the ocean bottom shoaled gradually enough that men could scramble ashore. We developed a routine of putting ashore a landing party (consisting of an Officer and four to six crewmen) and then having the ship circle the island with several men searching from the bridge with binoculars. The landing party walked enough of the island to be certain there were no living persons there.

After we had searched six islands, we had a calamity. The seventh island had no beaches but did have a reef extending from it that was about two feet above the water and dropped off almost vertically. The seas were very calm and the whaleboat put a landing party on the reef by nosing the whaleboat up to its edge. However, when the time came to take the men off, as the whaleboat approached the shelf, a rogue wave caught it and carried it some 75 feet up onto the reef. By incredibly hard work the men managed to keep the boat upright on its keel until the water subsided so it wouldn't be destroyed on the coral. They also carried its anchor to the seaward edge of the coral so it wouldn't be pushed inland any further. There was an axe in the boat, and the crew cut some small trees for logs to use as rollers. But even with the rollers and everyone shoving, they couldn't budge the boat.

They informed me by the then new "walkie-talkie" that there seemed to be no serious damage to the boat but that if it were to be saved, it would have to be pulled off. But by what? We were over 500 miles of open seas from the nearest port, and there was no reason to believe that it would have a suitable vessel or the means to get it to us.

I dreaded being at sea in these uncertain waters without a whaleboat, and the one on the reef was the only whaleboat we had. Much of the information used in making the charts of that portion of the south Pacific had come from 19th century whalers and were far from accurate; I found one island more than 15 miles from its charted position. Many reefs were uncharted. My ship had been designed for anti-submarine work and had "sonar," an underwater device that could detect the presence of and distance to underwater objects. However, it required a skillful operator, and even the best could not detect a reef that shoaled up gradually. If we were to hit a reef, the whaleboat would be enormously useful in helping us discover the severity of the problem, quite possibly the difference between a minor casualty and the loss of the ship.

I thus decided with great trepidation to try to pull the boat off with my ship. This would be a delicate job because the ship was a 315 long, 1600 ton vessel, and even though she had two propellers, she could not be maneuvered like a small yacht. The only rope on board strong enough was on the lifeboat davits, so I had the rope from both davits unreeled and tied together, making it about 240 feet. This meant that in order for the rope to reach from our winch to the whaleboat, the ship's bow would have to be no more than 150' off the reef.

Gingerly, indeed extraordinarily gingerly, I headed the ship directly for the reef and crept in until the bow was about 50 yards from the edge of the reef, which

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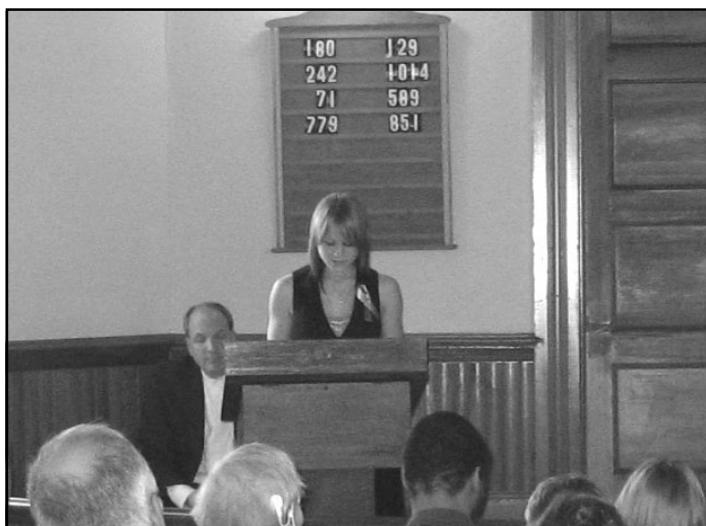
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seems a long way on a football field, but is dangerously close at sea with a ship size of mine. The sonar operator kept giving the distance to the reef, and I found that by giving brief touches of power to the propellers, I could keep the ship in position. A light line was tied to the rope and the dinghy carried the other end to the men on the reef. They pulled the rope over and tied it to the whaleboat, and we led the other end to the winch on the forward part of ship. With the log "rollers" under the whaleboat, and all the guys on the reef straining to keep the boat upright on its keel, we very slowly winched the boat across the reef to the water. I was surprised how hard it pulled, and I had to back one engine slowly to prevent the ship from being pulled to the reef.

Once in the water, the whaleboat leaked a bit, but made it back to the ship with the entire shore party. When she came alongside, the ship erupted in cheers. Everyone aboard had been very much aware that if things went badly, the nearest help was three or four days away, and one could sense the anxiety. At this point I had been Captain for a full year and knew that I had the confidence of the crew, despite the fact that I was an extremely youthful looking 24-year-old. It was clear that a lot of the guys had been badly scared we would have a disaster. The propeller and rudder of the boat were undamaged, and the Carpenter's Mate was able to repair the damage to its bottom. So we were able to continue with our mission.

I only learned many years later that early in my command I was referred to by some of the crew as "Captain Kid." Even if I had known this, it would have not bothered me nearly as much as when, in 1946, a waiter in an upscale cocktail lounge in Washington refused to serve my wife and me because he thought we were underage. My wife was flattered. I was infuriated. ☙

REBEKAH WARREN



Rebekah Warren reading at her father Larry's memorial service two weeks before she herself was killed in a car accident. The Antrim community has grieved over this tragedy.

—Editor

ANTRIM BENNINGTON LIONS CLUB

Dick Loveland, President

As a recent addition to our fundraising efforts, we took an April 17 day-trip to Foxwoods Casino in Connecticut, our third year for this outing. This gave people a day away from reality, a chance to play slots and experiment with a new winning strategy for poker or blackjack, and a comfortable bus ride.

On May 13 we hosted the Community Supper in Bennington, providing a homemade menu, including rolls, cornbread, ham/chicken jambalaya, tuna casserole, along with applesauce cake, brownies, and cookies. Thanks to Michelle Ricco and her volunteers.

We provided preschool vision screening at AES on May 19 and 20 to prevent childhood blindness. Our screeners went through training sessions so we could properly use the Welch Allen SureSight™ Vision Screener to test children one-through-five years old.

If you are interested in being a member of our Lion's Club, please contact Dick Loveland at 478-1344, or email at ral@gsinet.net. We could always use a few extra people to expand the projects we offer to the community. ☙

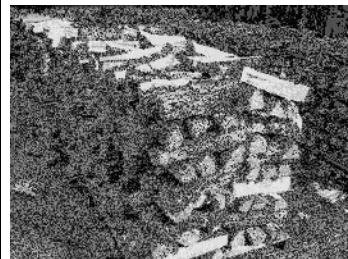
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Most of these subprime loans had low teaser rates for the first few years, then reset at a substantially higher rate. Since the lenders kept none of the risk, they didn't care if the borrower defaulted when the higher rate set in. To them it was just another chance to garner fees for refinancing. But the rating agencies model worked on the assumption that the borrower was just as likely to repay at the high rate as the low rate, which meant more money for the investors. Therefore these loans received higher ratings than fixed rate mortgages, when in reality "subprime borrowers tended to be one broken refrigerator away from default." When Standard and Poor's was asked by Eisman what would happen to the default rates if housing prices fell, he said their response was that their rating model could not accept a negative number, as if they simply could not envision falling house prices.

Lewis creates wonderful vignettes of his characters. Burry wore the same shirt and shorts for days, refused to wear shoes with laces, blared heavy metal rock in his office, and had an ability, which he later came to believe was associated with his Aspergers, to focus intensely on what interested him at the moment. Who else, Burry thought, would have the patience and single-mindedness to plow through hundreds of mortgage bond prospectuses? He was convinced that most if not all of the other investors betting on or against subprime mortgages had not.

In the spring of 2005, Burry felt that to be a responsible manager of his fund, he had to turn from the equities market in which he had done quite well for his investors, to the bond market and he made a large bet against subprime mortgage bonds. By April 2006, his bet was up to \$1.9 billion. He warned his investors that it would take several years, until the underlying mortgage loans reset at higher rates for the defaults to begin. But with the housing market steaming ahead, his investors became restive and started to demand higher returns or their money back. In 2006, he lost 18.4 percent when the S&P rose more than 10%. Some of his investors began to aggressively question his tactics and threatened to sue him if he didn't return their money. Burry felt betrayed. He had clearly explained his strategy and he never heard from his investors when he was making money for them. Now he felt they didn't trust, appreciate or understand his approach. Then, in mid-2007, the tide turned. Goldman Sachs moved to Burry's side of the market as did Morgan Stanley.

Eisman did not suffer fools gladly. As his wife describes him, "he has no interest in manners. Believe me, I've tried and I've tried and I've tried. . . . He's not tactically rude. He's sincerely rude." Walking out on conversations, using pithy vulgarities to express his disgust, picking fights, he identified with Spider Man, looking to protect the little guy against the evil of the financial world. It was at a conference for the mortgage bond business in Las Vegas in January, 2007, that the light truly dawned for him. At a dinner hosted by Deutsche Bank, Lippman seated Eisman next to Wing Chau, the CDO

manager. Eisman's group had heard that he was a big end buyer of subprime CDOs and thought when they saw Eisman seated next to him and given Eisman's complete lack of regard for social propriety "Oh no. This isn't going to end well."

Eisman managed to maintain his composure at the Vegas dinner, but immediately afterward collared Lippman and told him he wanted to short everything that Chau was buying, sight unseen. As a sign of the times, Eisman's group also met in Vegas a stripper with five separate home equity loans. Eisman's group left the conference with a renewed faith in their estimation of the market. They raised their short position in subprime mortgage bonds to \$550 million, shorted the CDOs of Chau, shorted Moody's and went looking for other people like Chau to short. They shorted mortgage originators and home builders, anything they could connect to the housing bubble. Then they shorted the investment banks.

Also in Las Vegas, although not invited, was the trio from Cornwall Capital. Roaming the conference, sneaking into presentations, accosting traders, they were testing their investment thesis for the \$100 million in credit default swaps they had already made. "We were trying to find people who could tell us why we were wrong." As far as Cornwall could tell, the only arguments against their position were that these types of loans had never defaulted in large numbers before and that there would always be a buyer for CDOs. As with Eisman, the conference served to solidify their position. They left the conference believing that the system had gone crazy and that if they were right, the world was going to crash and that the future may hold the end of democratic capitalism. They also began to worry that the government would not let that happen, that the Fed would intervene and if that happened, their bets were less sure.

The day after the close of the conference, the market began to collapse. The price of insurance on subprime mortgage bonds began to rise and many of the large firms stopped offering credit default swaps. The index for bonds fell, and yet the market for CDOs, the securities based on those bonds, continued apace. This dichotomy convinced Cornwall that the system was corrupt and they took their concerns to the SEC. The SEC did nothing.

continued on next page

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As the market crumbled, the young men at Cornwall Capital began to worry that the bets they had placed with Bear Stearns might well be worthless as it increasingly looked as if Bear might go under. In August 2007, they decided to get out of the market and sell their credit default swaps. The one delegated to do the trade happened to be on vacation in Exmouth, England. A local pub had the one reliable wireless connection and so there he was amidst the pints of beer, selling \$205 million in swaps. A week later, the trades were done and the little firm that had started with \$110,000 just over four years ago had netted over \$80 million.

Three weeks later, Michael Burry began to sell off his swaps, realizing profits on \$550 million of more than \$720 million. Yet he was demoralized by the reaction of his investors throughout this wild ride, none of whom bothered to thank him for making them rich, and eventually decided to shut down his fund. Subsequent to the publication of *The Big Short*, he penned an op-ed piece for the New York Times, disputing Alan Greenspan's recent assertions that no one could have foreseen what happened. The piece was entitled "I Saw the Crisis Coming. Why Didn't the Fed?"

FrontPoint made a spectacular amount of money on its bets, doubling the size of their fund from \$700 million to \$1.5 billion. But Eisman, ever the pessimist, wasn't happy. As he said: "We were still short. But you don't want the system to crash. It's sort of like the flood's about to happen and you're Noah. You're on the ark. Yeah, you're okay. But you are not happy looking out at the flood. That's not a *happy* moment for Noah."

Lewis summarizes that "...the international monetary fund would put losses on the US-originated subprime-related assets at a trillion dollars. One trillion dollars in losses had been created by American financiers, out of whole cloth, and embedded in the American financial system. Each Wall Street firm held some share of those losses and could do nothing to avoid them. No Wall Street firm would be able to extricate itself, as there were no longer any buyers. It was as if bombs of differing sizes had been placed in virtually every major Western financial institution. The fuses had been lit and could not be extinguished. All that remained was to observe the speed, the spark, and the size of the explosions."

Congress continues to debate financial reform and we all continue to suffer the aftermath of these explosions. Lewis gives us a brilliant and valuable, if disheartening, look at the culture and characters that produced the financial crisis.

The Big Short is available at the Tuttle Library.



Fishing Derby – Jack Vance

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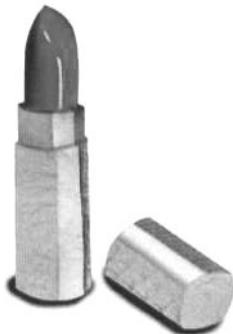
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TUTTLE LIBRARY NEWS

Kathryn Chisholm and Melissa Lawless

PROGRAMS

- Wed • June 12 Caregivers Support Group 11:00 am
Mon • June 28 Registration for Summer Reading begins
Wed • July 14 Caregivers Support Group 11:00am
Sat • July 31 End of Summer Reading Program Party
Wed • August 11 Caregivers Support Group 11:00am

AHOY READERS!

"Make a Splash—READ!" is the theme of the 2010 Summer Reading Program at the Tuttle Library. Children can explore the world of water and water fun through stories, games, and other activities about oceans, rivers, lakes, pools, and wetlands, as well as creatures that live in them. The 2010 Summer Reading Program is open to young people (and the young-at-heart), especially preschool through young adult, with patches, bookmarks, prize drawings, guessing jar contests, story hours, and a reading club. Participants may read books, listen to books, or be read to by a parent, grandparent, sibling, or friend. You may read one book or a hundred—there are no rules or restrictions. Registration begins on Monday June 28 with an end-of-the-program party on Saturday, July 31. For more information call the Library at 588-6786 or e-mail us at tuttlelib@comcast.net.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

The newly created Friends of the Library group worked very hard over the last year to fundraise (among other things), and they have decided to donate almost \$500.00 for the purchase of new books on CD. Commuter, walkers, runners, spinners and weavers (etc.) take heart—new books on CD will be arriving soon! Each audiobook will contain a bookplate to celebrate the generosity and hard work of the Friends. Several of our patrons have also donated money toward the purchase of audiobooks, which will help us increase and improve that collection.

SOON TO BE RELEASED

Janet Evanovich has a new Stephanie Plum novel entitled, *Sizzling Sixteen* which is scheduled for release on June 22, 2010 by St. Martin's Press. In this novel, young bounty hunter Stephanie Plum has inherited a "lucky bottle" from her late Uncle Pip. Unfortunately, Stephanie is unsure if the bottle brings good luck or bad. Meanwhile, Stephanie's cousin Vinnie Plum of "Plum's Bail Bonds" has incurred a \$786,000 gambling debt with mobster Bobby Sunflower who is holding him captive until the debt is paid. This leaves Stephanie, Vinnie's secretary Connie, and ex-hooker turned bounty hunter, Lula, to find the money to cover the gambling debt and track down the whereabouts of Vinnie.

Janet Evanovich's bawdy Stephanie Plum novels are light summer reading, filled with riotous adventures in the 'burbs of New Jersey. Stephanie's brushes with peril keep you on the edge of your seat and in real danger of falling off your

chair in laughter. Although these books about the sassy young bounty hunter are not for everyone, adults not easily offended by the crass language and behavior of popular culture have loved this series for sixteen years. Interestingly, we have discovered that many fathers who have raised daughters into adulthood seem to be some of Evanovich's biggest fans.

The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest, by Stieg Larsson, the final segment of his Millennium Trilogy, was just released in May. The Swedish journalist and novelist has become a best selling author posthumously, following a fatal massive heart attack; Larsson had submitted his now famous trilogy just prior to his death at the age of 50. Wildly popular, these crime novel thrillers were originally meant to be written as a ten-part series, but for obvious reasons fans will have to be content with the completed three. The series, starring Lisbeth Salander, a twenty-something eccentric with a photographic memory and notably poor social skills, and Mikael Blomkist, an investigative journalist with a similar history to Larsson's own, began in the January 2008 release of *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* followed in July 2009 by *The Girl Who Played with Fire*. Larsson, openly admitted to being influenced by certain American and British crime fiction authors: Sara Paretsky, Agatha Christie, Val McDermid, and Dorothy Sayers top the list. He was also strongly influenced by Swedish children's author Astrid Lindgren's character, Pippi Longstocking, who helped shape the main character Lisbeth Salander. Larsson claimed Lisbeth to be somewhat of an imagined Pippi Longstocking grown up.

The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo has been made into a movie which has now been released as a DVD. If you are interested, look for it in our basket of new DVDs.

HOLIDAYS

The Library will be closed on Monday July 5 in celebration of the Independence Day Holiday.

QQ

PREGNANT MAN IN ANTRIM

The following item was sent us by a usually reliable source. Although we think it has "hoax" written all over it, we feel we should run it in the spirit of the First Amendment.

—Editor

It has been reported that an Antrim man is pregnant. His doctor says, "Never saw anything like it in my life. It's just amazing." The man himself, when asked whether he thought this was "miraculous," replied he wouldn't use that word but he did think it odd. Doctors from all over the world have sought permission to examine him but he has denied such permission, saying "perhaps when I feel a little better." Gestation has been estimated at 11 months, two months longer than the normal 9. "This man has no fallopian tubes," said his doctor, "so naturally things will take a bit longer."

Meanwhile, the pregnant man's wife is laying in a supply of baby clothes. She says that since she herself is too old to have another child, she is grateful that her husband is providing one. "It's about time the old goat did something useful," she said.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

JUNE

- 4 **Black Fly Community Art Show** • The Grapevine • Adults 5:30–7:30 PM
5 **Black Fly Community Art Show** • The Grapevine • Families 10:00–12:00 NOON
12 **Caregivers Support Group** • Tuttle Library • 11:00 AM
14 **Flag Retirement Ceremony** • hosted by Boy Scout Troop 2 • at Fire Department • 7:00 PM
17–20 Eighth Annual Art Exhibit • Grange Hall
 Thursday • 3:00–8:00 PM
 Friday • 7:00–9:00 PM • *Evening Gala*
 Saturday • 10:00–3:00 PM
 Sunday • 12:00–4:00 PM • *Contest Awards at 3:30 PM*
19 **Contra Dance** • at Town Hall • sponsored by Rec Dept • 7:00–10:00 PM
25 **End-of-the-School-Year Hike** • The Grapevine • Meet at McCabe Forest 10:30 AM
28 **Registration begins: Summer Reading Program** • Tuttle Library

JULY

- 4 **Independence Day Celebration** • Historical Society annual tradition at the Bandstand in Memorial Park • 8:30–10:30 AM
8 **Stop One on the Mozart Trail:** concert series • Rec Dept • leave Antrim 6:00 PM
12–16 **Our Wild Backyard Adventure** • ages 4–6 at The Grapevine • 9:00 AM–12:30 PM
14 **Caregivers Support Group** • Tuttle Library • 11:00 AM
18 **Stop Two on the Mozart Trail:** concert series • Rec Dept • leave Antrim 6:00 PM
22 **Stop Three on the Mozart Trail:** concert series • Rec Dept • leave Antrim 6:00 PM
29 **Stop Four on the Mozart Trail:** concert series • Rec Dept • leave Antrim 6:00 PM
31 **Party: End of Summer Reading Program** • Tuttle Library

AUG

- 2–6 **Summer Science Camp** • ages 7–9 at The Grapevine • 9:00 AM–1:00 PM
6 **Stop Five on the Mozart Trail:** concert series • Rec Dept • leave Antrim 6:00 PM
9–13 **Our Wild Backyard Adventure** • ages 4–6 at The Grapevine • 9:00 AM–12:30 PM
11 **Caregivers Support Group** • Tuttle Library • 11:00 AM
14 **Franklin Pierce Lake Assoc** • first meeting • 9:00 AM
15 **Boy Scout Reunion** • hosted by Boy Scout Troop 2 • at Gregg Lake • 1:00–5:00 PM
21 **Contra Dance** • at Town Hall • sponsored by Rec Dept • 7:00–10:00 PM

* See complete Recreation Department schedule on pages 18–19



Fishing Derby – Zander & Aria Drew



Fishing Derby – Jaxon Salamy



Fishing Derby – Ed & Zoé Forrest

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Celeste Lunetta

So much to choose from—here is just some of what is going on! For complete program information, call the Rec. Office at 588-3121. We are in the office on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings. NEW programs include a Gymnastics Camp for kids ages 4–7; evening Lacrosse Camp for kids ages 8–12; weekly Tennis Clinics for kids; and Hershey Track and Field. We will also be getting the bus to all the stops on the Monadnock Music Mozart trail. Read on for more information, or call us at any time, or look online at antrimnh.org. Check our Facebook page under Antrim Recreation.

FRIENDS OF RECREATION FUNDRAISING!

This is a very valuable volunteer group that provides financial assistance to many of our programs. The Friends of Recreation are participating in the NH Association for the Blind Walk in Concord on Saturday June 5th. The proceeds from this walk go to programs that support independence for individuals with visual impairments, and also to the Friends of Recreation, based on the amount they raise with pledges. For more information on how to donate, and time is short, please call Janet McEwen at 588-6151.

SUMMER DAY CAMPS

(ages 5–13 JR Counselor positions available
for kids 7th–10th grade)

June 28–July 2 from 9 am–2 pm **Canvas Town Art Camp**, ages 7–14; **July 5–July 9** from 8:30 am–3:30 pm **Take A Hike**; **July 12–July 16** from 8:30 am–2:30 pm **Play Ball**; **July 19–July 23** from 8:30 am–3:30 pm **Animal Adventures**; **July 26–30** from 9 am–12 noon **Soccer Camp** and 12–4 pm **Performance Palooza**; **August 2–6** from 9 am–3 pm **Bombers Basketball** grades 4–9; **August 9–13** from 9 am–12 noon **Bombers Basketball** grades K–4 and 12–4 pm **Splish Splash and Camp Out!** Look online at antrimnh.org or call 588-3121 for more details.

SWIMMING LESSONS AT GREGG LAKE BEACH

Session I: July 5–July 15 Session II: July 26–Aug 5

Monday–Thursday Levels 1–4; (Friday will be a make up day) \$20.00 per session; reduction for 2nd child, scholarships

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available, lessons taught between 10 and 4, exact time of lesson TBD based on registrations. Session II will feature a 4:30 pm Level One lesson for Parent and Child together (3–6 years old), as well as a Level 2 evening (5:15) class. Call for more information.

SPORTS CAMPS AT SHEA FIELD AND ANTRIM TOWN GYM

Gymnastics for the Younger Athlete: June 28–July 1st, Mon–Thurs, from 4:00–6:00 pm. Ages 4–7 years old. This is a camp to explore tumbling, balance, core strength and more. Cost is \$30 per child. **** NEW!**

Hershey Track and Field: Sundays **June 20 and 27** from 5–7 pm; Monday–Friday **June 28; July 2** from 9–11 am; Mon & Tues **July 5 & 6** from 9–11 am and Wed **July 7** at 8 am for Regional Meet in Manchester.

This is a recreation program where children have fun and are introduced to fitness through track and field events in running, jumping and throwing. Cost is \$20 per child, and includes a T-shirt. Scholarships are available.

Evening Lacrosse Camp: Mon–Thurs **July 12–July 15**: Beginner and Intermediate Lacrosse training camp for boys and girls ages 8 through 12. Shea Field, 4–6 pm. Cost is \$30 per child.

Tennis Lessons at Memorial Park: Mondays **July 5–August 9**: 9–10 am for ages 8 yrs and older; 10–11 am for 5–8 yrs old. Wednesdays **July 7–August 11**: 5–6 pm for ages 7–10. Call to register. Cost is \$3.00 per lesson.

—continued on next page



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GREAT BROOK SOCCER CAMP: July 26–August 30, Mon–Fri from 9 am–12noon; 5–11 years old. (Performance Palooza in afternoon for full day option.)

NH BOMBERS BASKETBALL: August 2–August 6, Mon–Fri for Grades 4–10 from 9 am–4 pm; **August 9th–August 13th**, Mon–Thurs for Grades 1–5 from 9 am–12:30 pm. (Splish Splash Camp in afternoon for Full Day option)

ANTRIM IN THE EVENING SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

This free concert series is each Wednesday, outdoors at the Bandstand in Memorial Park. Parking is on Jameson Avenue or behind the Presbyterian Church. In case of rain, concerts are held indoors at the Antrim Town Hall. **July 7 - TREE-O Acoustic Americana;** **July 14 - Temple Town Band** “Americas First Town Band”; **July 21 - The Youngest Sun** Alternative Rock Funk; **July 28 - Bursitis Brothers** Classic Rock; **August 4 - Off The Cuff** Contemporary Folk; **August 11 - Nini + Ben** “Spirited high, lonesome folk blues” The Boston Globe; “Glad I am seeing them now before it costs \$45 on Ticketmaster” The Groove. **August 18 – Annalivia.**

TRIPS TO MONADNOCK MUSIC

Thursday, July 8, Stop One on the Mozart Trail. Leave Antrim at 6:00 pm for 7:30 pm show, return around 10 pm. Cost is \$2.00 for resident, \$4.00 non-resident. Franklin Pierce University Pierce Hall, Stop One on the Mozart Trail!

Sunday July 18, Stop Two on the Mozart Trail. Leave Antrim at 2:30 pm for 4:00 pm concert at the Walpole NH Unitarian Church. Cost is \$2.00 for resident, \$4.00 non-resident.

Thursday July 22, Stop Three on the Mozart Trail. Leave Antrim at 6:00 pm for 7:30 pm show at the Milford Town Hall. Cost is \$2.00 for resident, \$4.00 non-resident.

Thursday July 29, Stop Four on the Mozart Trail. Leave Antrim at 6:15 pm for 7:30 pm concert in Harrisville. Cost is \$2.00 for resident, \$4.00 non-resident.

Friday August 6: Stop Five on the Mozart Trail. Leave Antrim at 6:15 pm for 7:30 pm concert in Washington NH. Cost is \$2.00 for resident, \$4.00 non-resident.

FREE MOVIES AT THE ANTRIM TOWN HALL

For latest updates on Movies and Showtime's, look on the Town Website and check out Movies at Antrim Town Hall on



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Facebook. Movies will be shown on Friday evenings and Saturday afternoons. Schedule available at the beginning of each month at the Town Hall, Library and Recreation Office.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Yoga: Tuesdays 6:00 pm Town Gym; **Yogilates:** Thursdays 6:00 pm Town Gym; **Volleyball** Thursdays 7:00 pm Town Gym. **Basketball** Sundays 6:00 pm; **Ballroom Dance Lessons** series offered regularly on Friday evenings, call for more information.

CONTRA DANCES

Antrim Friends of Recreation is working to get a series of Contra Dances going; the current schedule is quarterly, though adjusted to accommodate other community events, such as Home and Harvest. There is a Contra Dance scheduled for Saturday June 19, 7–10 pm, at the Antrim Town Hall, featuring New Boston Fancy. The cost is \$5.00 per person, \$10 per family. The next dance is scheduled for Saturday August 21st 7–10 pm, and will feature another contra dance band—stay tuned!

This is always a really fun time, with instruction in the beginning of the night, and more advanced dances as the evening wears on. Come out and give it a try!

UPCOMING FALL PROGRAMS

Antrim Youth Soccer: New Hampshire Youth Soccer Association League with Soccer programs for youth ages 4 through 12. Interleague play for youth ages 6 through 10, and regional and state play for ages 11 through 14. Registration for Antrim Youth Soccer is due by Monday, July 26th. Registrations received after that date may be put on a waiting list, and will also pay a late registration fee. Please understand that late registrations put unnecessary pressure and difficulties on organization efforts. Some soccer programs continue in to the winter and spring.

Please call us at 588-3121 or stop by for more information on all programs. Check out the website antrimnh.org and our Facebook page under Antrim Recreation. ☀



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Antrim's Hawthorne College because his parents had a weekend place in the White Mountains, and he loved New Hampshire.

When they arrived in Antrim that February, Jim was still taking Viet Nam malaria pills. They had little money ("We were starving to death."), so Jim went to work doing whatever he could find "to make ends meet," including mowing lawns, bagging groceries at the Grand Union in Peterborough, driving a school bus and a truck for Andy Lane's Antrim Lumber.

Carol says: "We worked a lot longer hours than 12 per day, but probably no-one would believe that. Jim's only sleep was sitting up in the driver's seat in the truck, pulled over on the side of the road. He would wake up when the temperature inside the truck got too cold, and he would be off again. One time our then two year old son Jimmy asked me, in all innocence, 'Where is Daddy going to sleep tonight?'"

When Jim did get back from driving all night, he had to go fix the furnaces that weren't working, and then go deliver propane and oil. I honestly don't know how he did it.

Our Sunday family outings were to take the whole family in the tractor-trailer truck to get a load of gasoline in Boston."

Despite the fact that they were poor, Jim was determined to get an education and so continued to study at Hawthorne, using the GI Bill for financial support.

"In the spring of 1969 we started a small propane business, and I looked for customers by simply walking into people's back yards and try to sell them gas." How did he decide on propane? Rymes's friend Thelma Nichols says that Jim "told me once that he looked around to see what service Antrim needed and didn't have, and that's how he chose his business. A very wise decision-making process and one that I think he has followed in everything he does. His business didn't just turn to gold by luck, but because he made purposeful decisions along with lots of hard work."

In the winter of 1969-70 Jim worked part-time for Ernest "Buster" Ashford's fuel oil company carrying the heavy oil hoses to houses over the snow. Ashford had been in poor health, and when he died in February, 1970, Jim began running the business at the request of Buster's wife, Sylvia. Now very busy at work, he had to withdraw from Hawthorne, and in August Sylvia offered to sell him the business. Still without much money, Jim told her he couldn't afford to buy it, upon which she declared forcefully that she would see to it that he could. She did, and he did! That was the beginning of a change in the fortunes for Jim and Carol, who, Jim stressed, "was deep into the company, working twelve hours a day" every much as hard as he.

Jim says that he and Carol had enormous affection and respect for Sylvia Ashford, and when she told them that her husband never disclosed much of anything about the business, they kept her informed about how they were doing,

which she enjoyed, especially when they would take her out to dinner every Labor Day.

As the Rymes family prospered—their three sons now run the business—Jim and Carol could begin to afford giving back to the town that had so helped them succeed. They bought the old Aiken House and lot on Main Street and offered it to the library that badly needed more space, and when they discovered that the library could not legally accept property, they gave it to the town. This building first became an early home for the Grapevine Family & Community Resource Center, now such a valuable part of Antrim, and more recently the location for the beautiful new addition to the Tuttle Library.

Jim is hesitant to talk about their generosity to the town, but Eric Tenny, Selectman several times during the Rymes's years in town, and Bob Varnum, until this year Antrim's Road Agent, told me of several instances of Rymes benevolence, including, in addition to the Aiken House gift: the laying of sewers for the churches in town at no charge, the donation and installation of large fuel tanks at the Town Garage, loans to the Highway Department of equipment such as compressors and sanders, and most recently paying for the repair and renovation of Antrim's Miltmore Road.

Fire Chief Mike Beauchamp recalls that not only was Jim a member of the Fire Department for many years, he was one of the original organizers of Antrim's Rescue Squad in 1974, along with Mike, Bill Hall, Neil Sharby, Dick Atkinson, Barry Frosch, David Ross, Dave Jordan, and three wives, Carol Rymes, Peggy Sharby, and Jean Atkinson.

The Rymes's most unusual gesture for the benefit of others, not exclusively an Antrim matter, is their oil delivery truck painted vivid pink to promote the elimination of breast cancer. Appearing first around New Hampshire in communities where Rymes delivers oil, later in Antrim's autumn Home & Harvest parade, and more recently at oil trade shows throughout the country, the Rymes pink breast cancer truck has started a national movement to raise money for breast cancer awareness and research, with many companies in the United States currently driving pink breast cancer trucks which, following the Rymes practice, donate a certain percent of income from the trucks to the Cancer Society.

All has not been smooth and positive in Jim and Carol's forty years in Antrim, and as Eric Tenney, Bob Varnum, and others report, the Rymes company suffered financially when the town decided to buy heating oil from a non-local competitor, a decision that some residents believe to have been shortsighted and unfair, considering the Rymes long-term generosity to the town. Also, as Jim explains, some in town have been critical of their company over the years, early on refusing them business because they were too small, and later because they were too big. He says that sometimes they simply couldn't win, "and one of our real regrets is in not keeping a journal" recording the conflicting complaints that came their way.

 continued on next page

But evidence of the Rymes's continuing commitment to Antrim can be seen in their purchase in 1992 of the 1st Congregational "Stone" Church from its members who could no longer afford to maintain the building. Jim told me that although they are not especially religious, they love the old Stone Church for its rustic beauty and its rich place in Antrim history. So far they have spent about \$135,000 on the church, putting in a new septic system, fixing plumbing, and expanding and smoothing the parking lot. They are retired from day-to-day operations of their company and wish to "downsize" various properties, including the church. Because they want to be certain that whoever they donate it to has the serious intention, the financial strength, and the human resources to renovate and preserve and maintain the church for posterity, discussions with the Antrim Historical Society have been ongoing since the summer of 2006. During our phone interview Jim told me that they should be ready to deed the church to the Historical Society early this summer, pending formal surveys of the building and grounds.

Jim closed our conversation by saying that while he will always value his years in Antrim, he is looking forward ultimately to living in an old family house in Ossipee, New Hampshire.

Jim and Carol have come a long way since he strolled into our back yard in 1969 to sell us some propane, and thanks in part to them, so has Antrim. ☙



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THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE

"Positive words for Nervous Seniors"

Melanie Blackman

Antrim's Melanie Blackman attended ConVal high school for a year and a half before deciding to be home-schooled. She graduated a year early and currently attends New Hampshire Technical Institute in Concord.

—Editor

Unfortunately, high school wasn't one of the best things that happened to me in my teenage years. I was socially awkward and I couldn't stand the cliques or the daily drama. In a time when I was supposed to find myself, I lost myself. Graduating high school a year early—now that was one of the best things to happen to me. I took a semester off for some breathing time and then decided I'd quit my job and start college in the spring semester this past January.

Just like the seniors at ConVal who are graduating this June, I was excited, nervous, proud, terrified, with every other emotion in between. I was ready for a new start, but I dreaded the thought of my college years being the same as my high school years. I didn't want to lose myself again.

For those of you who had a high school experience like mine—don't sweat it. You've survived the past four years, and the years ahead will be a positive experience. College is nothing like high school. Although I didn't experience any drama my first semester, I know that drama is everywhere and doesn't make any exceptions. I was glad to witness the absence of cliques, and I ended up talking to many different people I wouldn't have in high school. No one hangs out or talks to certain people just because of the clothes on their back.

As soon as I walked into NHTI my first day of classes, I felt reassured that it would be a positive experience—and it was. College is not only a classroom learning experience, it's a social learning experience as well. On your first day of college, forget how high school felt. This is the beginning of the rest of your life. Good luck! And congrats ConVal class of 2010!

☺

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ANTRIM VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS

Dick Loveland, President, Antrim Bennington Lion's Club

In conversations with the Grapevine's Sydney Wilson-Smith about youth programs in Antrim, I was directed to meet with Kristen Vance, Executive Director of The Grapevine. We got together last October to discuss how the Antrim Bennington Lion's Club might better work with youth in our town. The Lion's Club has several programs that have been used worldwide that I thought might also work in Antrim, including Leo's Club where students in junior and/or high school join lions in doing community/school service projects, Youth Exchange where students have the opportunity to travel to other countries, and drug and alcohol awareness programs.

The conversation turned to the fact that Antrim has a large number of service organizations that make significant contributions to our community. We decided that we need an ongoing discussion among these organizations to better understand what each is doing, to provide support for one another, to tackle common issues, and to sponsor joint initiatives too large for one organization.

To get this moving we decided to form a Steering Group and were fortunate to have Brian Beihl from the Boy Scouts, Police Chief Scott Lester, and the Grange's Beth Merrill find time to work with us to make this first meeting of Antrim's volunteer organizations happen. We drew up an invitation list of over thirty volunteer organizations, more than any of

us imagined existed.

We set the date for April 9 from 6 pm to 9 pm and worried about who would show up on a Friday evening. We developed an information form for the organizations to fill out about background, services they would like to provide, and obstacles to making this happen. The Antrim Bennington Lion's Club sponsored the event and served dinner for all attendees.

By 6 pm that Friday people started to drift into the Town Hall, and we ended up having thirty-five attend. We planned to have each organization speak that evening, but the discussions were so enthusiastic we were only able to get though fifteen of the twenty-four organizations present.

Problems common to most of the organizations emerged, such as the need of more volunteers, getting a new generation of volunteers, obtaining better facilities, and raising funds. Some of the forward-looking ideas included:

- A major emphasis on young people needing more visibility about available programs, expanding the number of opportunities, finding adult leadership, and utilizing their talents to better serve the community.

- A discussion on how to improve the health and nutrition in the community by active support of local gardening, community gardening, fresh foods in the summer and winter, use of our outdoors, and knowledge of good diets.

- Organizations working together to improve facilities and equipment, creating a skills inventory, going after grants, and brainstorming new fundraising ideas, and creating a central organization to make it easier to donate and/or find available services.

We stopped the meeting a little after 9 pm and scheduled another session to get through all the speakers, summarize the discussion, and determine our next steps. This second session, Forum II, was planned for Friday May 21, but as the June Limrik had gone to press by that date, you will get all the results in the September issue.

What we have found out in this effort is that Antrim has a great base of volunteer organizations providing a wide range of services to the town. We want to build on what is in place and keep it going by expanding the number of volunteers, developing new sources of funds, and creating synergy from the wide range of organizations we do have.

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NEW ANTRIM RESTAURANT

Lyman Gilmore

Malarkey's Village Café began serving this spring, a little too late to be included in the March *Limrik*, so we now announce its Grand Opening, after the fact. The Café joins three other restaurants in the Malarkey eatery empire: Malarkey's Bar & Grill in Wilton, Malarkey's Restaurant and Pub at the Crotched Mountain Golf Course in Francestown, and Redneck's in Antrim.

Open for breakfast and lunch seven days a week, and for dinner Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, the Café offers varied and interesting menus, with specials every day, and wine and beer. Recently friends of the *Limrik* praised the luncheon BLT and Reuben sandwiches, as well as the dinner Baked Seafood and Grilled Beef Medallions. Elizabeth Henderson, who is the Chef and Kitchen Manager for both the Café and the golf course restaurant, lives with her husband and two daughters on their small Francestown farm where they raise chickens for eggs, and sheep that their girls, Hannah, 13, and Emma, 9, show at 4H fairs. Elizabeth trained in culinary arts at Johnson and Wales University in Providence, and has cooked at other local restaurants, including the Common Place in Bennington and Grovers Corners in Peterborough. Two assistant chefs work with Elizabeth, John Palughi and Paul Morrison.

When I interviewed Elizabeth along with Malarkey owners Scott and Donna Wheeler on the Café's sunny deck last month, my first question was, "Who is Malarkey?" They all laughed, and Donna explained that there isn't any Malarkey, that they came up with the name after years of telling their kids to "Cut the Malarkey!" Scott commented that the name stands for fun, which is what they want their restaurants to be. Hours: Breakfast and lunch from 7:00 am, and dinner Thursday through Saturday 5:00 to 9:00 pm. ☙



Photo by D. Chauncey

TRANSPORTATION SAVINGS

Ruth Benedict

Contoocook Valley Transportation has been growing by leaps and bounds since bringing all the **Volunteer Driver Networks** from 13 area towns together under its administrative roof. Antrim has a team of Volunteer Drivers that make transportation possible for fellow residents. (Thanks for all your generous help, drivers!) The need for drivers has grown with the program, so if you have some time to donate as a driver, please call **Ruth Benedict**, at **588-6208**, or **CVTC** at **1-877-428-2882**. You will always have the option of taking or declining a trip request. The system is very flexible.

In addition to the Volunteer Driver Program at CVTC, the **Rideshare Program** coordinates trips among individuals going to the same place. You have the option of either calling CVTC at 1-877-428-2882 (toll-free) or visiting the CVTC website at www.cvtc-nh.org to find rides and/or riders for your trip.

A third service provided by CVTC is coordination of **Carpooling**. This summer, CVTC is in partnership with the **Peterborough Players** to promote carpooling as a way to get more people to performances with less impact on the environment. Using CVTC's Rideshare Program, Players' subscribers can find each other and share rides, particularly helping the many loyal patrons who no longer drive at night, or at all.

All of these options support our environment and ease the strain of gas prices. ☙

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FLASHING BACK TO ANTRIM HIGH SCHOOL

1967/68

Robin Rockwell

In the Spring of 1967 I was a junior at Antrim High School in the pre-ConVal building that is now GBS. Chick Hamel was the principal as well as the basketball coach. Chick knew we had the makings of a good basketball team the following year, and he wanted to be sure we were in shape for the long basketball season. He told Bill Davies and me that anyone who ran cross-country in the fall would not have to do the running drills come basketball season. We had never run cross-country but agreed this would be a great idea. We told the others, and three more signed on, John Doleac, Bruce Davies, and my cousin Dennis Huntington.

During that summer, Dennis and I ran every chance we got. We would start in Clinton Village at my house, also my father's store, Eddie's Place. (My parents, Eddie and Helen, were deaf, and they bought the store in the late 1940's. I can remember them putting in long hours, 8 am to 11 pm nearly every day. They managed to make a go of it until 1969. I often wondered how they could do that and raise two children, my sister Bonnie and me.) From Eddie's Place Dennis and I would head up Gregg Lake Road, past the two beaches, down Craig Road, and over to Grange Hall Hill. From there we would race each other back to my house. It was over five miles and prepared us well for the two-mile races we would run in the fall.

I should mention that in those summer months we enlisted the help of three very experienced cross-country runners: former Antrim High School stars Stanley Dutton, Don Putnam, and his brother Jim. Dennis, Bill, and I worked for landscaper Bill Richardson (we affectionately called him Uncle Willie) that summer and had the good fortune to work with Stan Dutton & Jim Putnam. They eagerly offered to run with us and did several times.

Once school began in September we were ready to roll. Harvey Spalding was our running coach and also a math teacher. Finally the meets began. John Doleac, Bill Davies, and I had our routine that we held to for every home meet. We would jump in John's red VW after school and head up to Gregg Lake with our pre-race snack, Pepsi and Twinkies. The meets didn't begin until four so we had plenty of time to digest the foods. At least that is what we told ourselves. Once we were finished we would go back to the high school where Coach Spalding and Chick Hamel would transport us to the racecourse.

The starting line began near what is now Gordon Webber's home on Old Hancock Road. At the sound of a pistol we would take off south toward the water fountain at the head of West Street, up the hill past Smitty Harriman's house, down Pleasant Street, across Highland Avenue, and up Summer Street to the school.

There was one individual who, not satisfied with his times, decided he needed an energy boost. He had read somewhere that drinking honey would give him more energy, so he drank

a pint before the race. He took off among the leaders as we passed the water fountain, sprang up the hill, legs pumping, looking good, but eventually he fell back and didn't finish as well as he had hoped. We learned later he had deposited the whole pint of honey on the side of Pleasant Street just before he reached Bob Varnum's place. Here it is 43 years later and still a highlight of the season.

On one occasion Steve Brzozowski drove his parents' jalopy along the course during a meet, a 1931 model A Ford wagon, emitting a sickening exhaust. The problem was he couldn't go fast enough as he passed us, so all the runners, including us, suffered from the foul smelling fumes.

We finished the year winning nine of fifteen meets, the first winning season in six years. We felt pretty good about that and were confident we would do well in the state finals in Durham. Seven schools participated from Class S. Bill and I finished in the top six and the team placed fifth.

A few weeks later it was basketball time. The first day of practice Chick had everyone line up for wind sprints. Bill, Dennis, Bruce, John, and I had smirks on our faces because we knew we didn't have to do these, and we stepped aside. Chick looked at us like we were crazy and hollered, "Get in Line!" We reminded him of his promise back in the spring, but he suddenly had amnesia.

We had an outstanding basketball year. The biggest game in my life occurred on February 20, 1968, when Antrim played undefeated Thayer High School. Thayer came into town with a 16-0 record while Antrim stood at 15-3. We had lost to Thayer in our first game in Winchester 86-81, so we were looking for revenge. The crowd was electric. Both sides of the gym were packed, and the balcony was filled with people, standing room only, over 600 people.

We jumped out to a 13-6 lead after one quarter, but Thayer came back and scored from half court at the buzzer to take the lead at halftime 33-31. I remember Chick Hamel saying, "Forget that shot...forget that shot...you cotton picking guys are playing great!" (He always called us "cotton picking guys" in his halftime speeches.)

The third quarter ended with Antrim trailing 57-53, but at the 3:42 mark the game was tied 69-69. With 1:43 remaining Antrim found itself behind 77-71. Chick Hamel called time out and told us to put on a full court press. For the rest of this story I am relying on a newspaper article from the Hillsboro Messenger where it says I stole the inbound pass and fed Fred Doleac for a lay up to make it 77-73. Then Bill Davies stole a pass and hit a jump shot to make it 77-75. Next, Jeff Barsanti stole another pass, drove in for the tying points and missed. However, Steve Brzozowski grabbed the rebound and scored to tie the game at 77. With 23 seconds remaining we regained possession of the ball and Chick Hamel called time once again.

The plan was to eat up the clock and hit Bill at the top of the key. This we did and Steve hit Bill with the perfect pass,

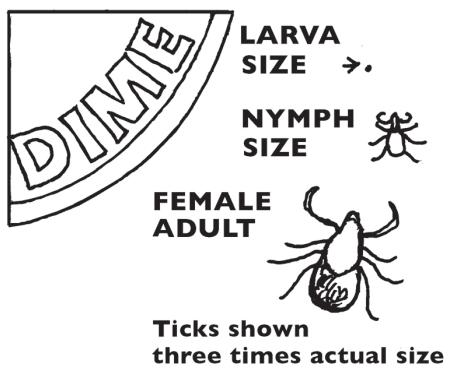
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TICK TALK: AVOIDING LYME DISEASE

Schatze Moore

Tick tock, tick tock, the clock is ticking. The mission, if you choose to accept it, and you should, is to search for and destroy any ticks you can find crawling or feasting on you, family members, or household pets. Your mission may feel somewhat like looking for a needle in a haystack, or to be more exact, you will be looking for something on your clothing or skin as small as a poppy seed or as large as a sunflower seed. You will be looking for something that, as it feeds off of you, will increase in size about ten times. The clock is ticking, but you do have time.

But the primary principle is to keep from getting bitten. Keep in mind that ticks are not like mosquitoes and black flies that fill and fly in a short moment. Think of ticks as little campers combing the area for the best campsite, and then think of yourself as a campground. You've got time, though I



wouldn't be slow about it because some ticks are going to choose their site and begin feeding more quickly than others. That is where the trouble begins for us human hosts because we can't know which ticks are infected with the Lyme bacte-

ria. So the old saying, "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," is very applicable here. But you still have time because it takes time—several hours—during their feeding for the transmission of the disease. According to studies, the poppy seed sized nymphs bite faster than the adult ticks. How much faster do they bite and how long do they feed? I don't know, but the information I have gives me reason to

Flashing Back continued

chest high, and he released his shot a split second before the buzzer went off...swish! We won 79-77! The crowd rushed onto the floor. We felt like heroes. Coach Hamel played just the five regulars the whole game. There were no substitutions. Some of the stats for the game were: Bill Davies 39 points. Steve Brzozowski 10, Fred Doleac 15, Jeff Barsanti 6, and I had 9. On the rebounding side Jeff had 22 rebounds and I had 18.

In the 1967-68 season we won 16 games and lost only 3. Our eleven players were Bill and Bruce Davies, John & Fred Doleac, Steve & Dick Brzozowski, Jeff Barsanti, Gary Cole, David Jones, Dennis Huntington, and myself. I'm sure I would be speaking for everyone on the team when I say I would love to lace up the sneakers one more time for Chick Hamel.

I believe I still have time. Therefore, my personal mission is to search, and to keep searching, and to search some more.

On my desk in a little covered test tube is a live tick that I pulled off my dog just before I sat down to write this article. It is dark in color, has eight black legs, is teardrop shaped, kind of flat, the size of a flax seed, and has a pincer-like mouth. My dog was vaccinated for Lyme disease, but as an additional precaution, more for our sake than hers, we chose to use an anti Lyme chemical on her that we got from our veterinarian. So I am expecting this tick to die just from having walked across her body, especially because it had bitten her and ingested some of the chemical. But whether the chemical works or not, it is going to die because I am going to kill it.

Other than using repellent products on skin and clothing, how else do we protect ourselves from being unknowing hosts to disease-carrying parasites? I call it getting to know myself and employing the "hands on method." Here is what we do, and we do it obsessively. It's your body, so check it out. Search as if your health depends on it. It does! Know your warts, skin tags, and moles intimately. Check all bodily nooks, crannies, crevices, innies, dimples, wrinkles and folds. Employ the buddy system; parents do this for your children, and teach them to inspect themselves. Husbands, wives, significant others, you get the gist. Just do it. Use mirrors and lighted magnifying glasses. Whenever you visit the bathroom, take a moment to feel for unwanted guests. Ticks can enter your house on your shoes and clothing, so look them over. Pets unwittingly bring ticks into the house, so don't forget to check them as well.

QQ

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KNOW CARBS—KNOW BREAD

Cindy Crockett, Bakery 42

So often we hear “no bread for me, I’m not doing carbs” as the basis of a person’s diet or an attempt to lose weight. This decision also excludes cookies, cake, cupcakes, muffins, scones, breakfast foods; in fact, it excludes a lot that is actually beneficial to one’s diet.

The theory behind low carb diets is that if one avoids foods containing starches and sugars (carbohydrates), pounds will be dropped. However, this diet choice also eliminates fruits and juices, many vegetables, bread, rice, cereal, pasta, etc. Unfortunately, what then dominates the diet are mostly fatty, high-protein foods.

According to studies in the Journal of the American Medical Association, “The literature has no clear consensus as to what amount of carbohydrates per day constitutes a low-carbohydrate diet.”

There have been myriad studies looking at the efficacy of low-carbohydrate diets, taking into consideration gender,

height, weight, duration of diet, caloric intake, carbohydrate content in the diet, exercise, whether the person smokes, level of education, and many other factors. In results among the published studies, “participant weight loss while using low-carbohydrate diets was principally associated with decreased caloric intake and increased diet duration but not with reduced carbohydrate content.”

In many cases, “bad” cholesterol levels actually increased while “good” cholesterol levels decreased, and researchers began seeing a higher incidence of coronary disease with prolonged low-carb diets. In fact, ironically, after adjusting for many factors, several studies found carbohydrate intake to be inversely related to obesity and conditions of overweight in every case, that is, less carbs, more weight. These are among the top risk factors for cardiovascular disease.

While I make no claim here along the lines of dietary or medical advice—and

many studies are out there in much more detail—it is worth it to ask oneself: what am I really doing by shunning carbs and bread? Good bread is good food! Just don’t eat the whole loaf in one sitting. ☙



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ARTIST AND CRAFTSMAN WALKER BOYLE

Virginia Dickinson

Antrim is blessed with a wide array of talented artists, crafts people, musicians, and expert sportsmen and women. This is the first in a series of articles focusing on these individuals.

—Editor

Walker Boyle has created an entire world of extraordinary pewter sculptures. He was born and raised in Rhode Island, and drawing and sculpture have been a part of his life from his early youth. He says this has always been how he expressed himself. He has been inspired by the artists N.C. Wyeth (Andrew Wyeth's father), Maxfield Parrish, and Peter Max.

After attending New England College in the 1970s, Walker studied painting and sculpture at the Rhode Island School of Design where he learned the ancient art of "lost wax casting." After leaving RISD, he worked in foundries in Rhode Island where he continued to hone his skills casting sculptures. In 1999 he moved with his brother Mike to Danbury, New Hampshire, where they set up a foundry that served the industrial and art communities.

In 2003 Walker came to Antrim and set up his studio to create his own sculptures, using the lost wax process to create multiple copies of his work. Lost wax casting is a complex, time consuming, and labor intensive process that involves creating a sculpture out of wax, and then making a series of molds into which hot molten metal is poured, thus reproducing copies of the original sculpture exactly. In colonial times pewter alloy consisted of tin and lead, but the modern pewter that Boyle uses is a combination of tin and silver. The whole process can take up to a year to finish, and because it involves so much time and work, he creates numerous sculptures simultaneously so as to have each piece ready for the final phase which involves cleaning the sculptures and adding final details.

Walker's work and inspirations are wide ranging. He has created sculptures based on Aesop's Fables and the original Alice in Wonderland illustrations by Sir John Tenniel. He has also created many sculptures from nature, including bears, heron, sea creatures and shells, raccoons, dragons, cats, and snow flakes. One of my favorites is his sculpture of a crab coming out of its

shell. Walker showed me the master wax sculpture of this piece that is so fragile I was glad that he was holding it and not I.

Walker is a member of the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen. To become a member of the League one must submit work to be judged by a jury of master craftsmen in one's field. Only craftsmen of the highest caliber are invited to be members of the League and to sell their work at the League's fair and stores



located throughout New Hampshire. As a member of the League, Walker shows his work every summer at the Lake Sunapee Crafts fair, one of the oldest crafts fairs in the country. His sculptures are sold locally at the Sharon Arts Gallery in Peterborough. For images of Walker Boyle's work and more information, visit his website at walkererpewter.com.

QR

COMMUNITY GARDENS

Antrim's community gardens are already growing. This year we have four new gardeners and three repeat gardeners. Davi Penny will be getting help from the teens from Avenue A and will again be growing veggies for the Food Bank.

Reports in the media are encouraging that the tomato blight will NOT repeat itself this year. That was probably the most discouraging part of last year's season. It was even worse than the infestation of cucumber beetles! Despite an incidence of vandalism last week we are hoping for a good year.

Our thanks to Dave Boulé for the use of his land and to Gordon Webber for providing the tank for water.

QR

CHURCH NEWS

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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REV. PEGGI K. BOYCE

SUNDAY WORSHIP • 10:30 AM

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WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00 PM

LITERACY AT GREAT BROOK SCHOOL

Terri Sittig, Reading Specialist and RtI Literacy Coordinator

This year, Great Brook began implementing Reading Workshop (part of our implementation of the RtI—Response to Intervention—model) as a method to support students who were experiencing reading difficulties. Based on formal tests and informal measures, approximately fifty students were identified as “partially proficient” in the area of reading. As a Reading Workshop participant, each student received intensive reading instruction and academic support from a reading specialist and paraprofessionals.

The basic principle of Reading Workshop is to cultivate the love of reading by providing students with an array of genres to explore and discuss. Students develop solid reading skills by learning and practicing before, during, and after reading strategies. Most importantly, students read books of their choice every day and are encouraged to read every night.

Winter NWEA (Northwest Evaluation Association) test results as well as informal measures indicate that Reading Workshop has been effective. Fifteen students increased their reading levels by two to three grade levels and have graduated from the program. Nine students increased their reading levels by one to two grade levels, and nine students increased their reading levels by almost one year.

Motivation played a key role in much of the success students experienced. Students learned the importance of developing strong reading skills before they enter high school. Because of student awareness and their commitment to improve their reading skills, Reading Workshop classes experienced few behavior problems resulting in nearly 100% student engagement.

Five eighth grade students and one seventh grade student who graduated from the program are currently being trained to tutor fifth grade students in reading fluency. When they were asked to reflect on their experience in Reading Workshop and why they wanted to become a peer tutor, they reported the following:

“Reading Workshop has been a tremendous help to me this year! It has given me the knowledge and experience to realize that if you try, you will succeed. Not only that, the confidence it has given me towards my reading skills is such a relief! I’m so excited to be a new peer tutor – to demon-

strate to the younger students that they can be bumped up and have that same reading confidence we all need. Anyway, Reading Workshop is a great way to help young readers!” Amandalee K.

“I’m glad that I am able to become a peer tutor because for the three and a half years I have been at Great Brook, I was not that great of a reader. Once I entered Mrs. Sittig’s class, I thought I would be there the whole year. Now I’m out, and I’m a great reader. I want to become a peer tutor because I want to help kids before the reading gap gets wider, and I want to help so they don’t struggle for four years at Great Brook and on to high school.” Ethan C.

“My experience in Reading Workshop has been great. It helped me with slowing down and reading with expression. It also got me reading better than before and reading more often. My reading experience for the second half of the school year is going to be helping kids with fluency and reading with expression so they can read more clearly in class and out of school.” Nick N.

“I like Reading Workshop because once I graduated, I really felt like I accomplished something. I am glad I was given the opportunity to become a peer tutor because I want other kids to have the same experience. I can’t wait to get into the classroom! I think I improved mostly in fluency. Fluency is not only important when you are reading out loud, but it is important when you read silently. You don’t want to spend twenty minutes reading something that could only take you ten minutes.” Taylor S.

“Reading Workshop has helped me with my fluency and comprehension; I am also reading more. I love helping little kids, specifically fifth graders. Helping little kids has always been something I’m good at.” Rebecca G.



The Grapevine Walk

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BOY SCOUTS

Brian Beihl

U.S. FLAG RETIREMENT CEREMONY, JUNE 14

On Flag Day, Boy Scout Troop 2 will host an American flag retirement ceremony. In cooperation with the Myers-Prescott-Olsen American Legion Post #50, the Antrim Fire Department, and the Great Brook Service Unit troops of the Girl Scouts, the ceremony will be held at the Antrim Fire Department, Monday, June 14 at 7 p.m.

The Boy Scouts of Troop 2 and Cub Scouts of Pack 2 have been assisting the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars in honoring veterans at the Antrim and Bennington Cemeteries by placing flags at graves, some dating to before the American Revolution. Each year, about 200 flags need retirement.

The public is welcome to drop off flags to be retired in Antrim at Edmund's Hardware, Tuttle Library, Antrim Transfer station, and the Antrim Elementary School. In Bennington, drop boxes are available at Dodge Library, the Bennington Transfer station, the Bennington Country Store, and Pierce School.

TROOP 2 BOY SCOUT REUNION, AUG. 15

Since its founding in 1919, the Boy Scouts in Antrim have served 750 boys and given countless hours of community service to the community. For many of those boys, Troop 2 played an important part in their lives and in the paths they chose as adults. On Sunday, August 15 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Gregg Lake Beach, Troop 2 will host a reunion for all present and former Troop 2 and Pack 2 Scouts and leaders. In addition to a BBQ and outdoor activities, a display of patches and artifacts from Troop 2's 91-year history will be on display. Many pictures of 50-mile hikes, summer camp and the other scouting activities will also be on display. As with all scouting events, this event will be held rain or shine.

If you have photos, patches, or uniform pieces from pre-1972, let us know and we'll include them in the display. We are particularly looking for a 1963 patch for a camporee held in Antrim. Please place any items you have in plastic sleeves or bags with your name and phone on it, and let Ed Hebert know what you have at 588-2823.

Troop 2 Scouts will be active all summer long, so it's a great time to join! Call Scoutmaster Brian Beihl for more information, 588-3014.



TROOP 2 SEEKS FORMER SCOUTS 1919 -2010

Were you a Scout in Troop 2 or Pack 2?

Let us know where you are and what impact Scouting had on your life! Call Ed Hebert at 588-2823 or email Brian Beihl at beihl@comcast.net.



ANTRIM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Missy Taylor

We hope many of you will join us on the Fourth of July when the Declaration of Independence will be read by Dean Proctor and Bill Nichols at the Bandstand in Memorial Park. This is a wonderful annual tradition, now in its 17th year. Come join your friends and neighbors for coffee, homemade donuts and sweet rolls on Sunday, July 4th from 8:30 am to 10:30 am as we celebrate the birth of our nation.

We're getting ready for Home and Harvest Days in September, about which more will be in the September issue of the *Limrik*. Save the date of Saturday, September 18 when the Historical Society will again be selling homemade apple crisp with ice cream, as well as our note cards, tote bags, and historical publications. Our apple crisp has become a fall tradition, and we've sold out early in the afternoon in previous years so make sure to get yours early.

Progress is being made on the acceptance of the generous gift of Jim and Carol Rymes of the Stone Church to the Historical Society and we will be reporting more to our members as information becomes available. Our 2010 Spring Membership Drive is underway and we thank everyone for the terrific response and for your generous donations. We depend on member dues and donations for our operating support.

We are always looking for new ideas for programs and we are very interested in your suggestions on how we can better serve the community. We also need volunteers to help us with our ongoing projects, the apple crisp social, the Historical Society room at the library, service on the Board, and help with the Stone Church. If you haven't yet joined the Society and you are interested in helping us collect, interpret and promote the history and heritage of Antrim for present and future generations, contact Ron Haggett, Treasurer, at 588-6715. Dues are a very reasonable \$10 a year.

Please watch for Historical Society news and program 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 First Presbyterian Church at 3 pm, followed by refreshments. All of the Society's programs and meetings are open to the public without charge.



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Kristen Vance

COMMUNITY SURVEY

Our thanks to the 155 people who completed The Grapevine Community Survey in March. The majority of our respondents were from our “target towns” of Antrim, Hancock, Bennington and Francestown, with more than one-half of the respondents living in Antrim. The survey results gave us good insight into several areas of interest and will be a guide for The Grapevine as we move forward.

The survey results affirm for us that we are living in a place with a strong sense of community. Over 90% of respondents participate in our community by shopping locally. It also tells us that, as a community, we have been impacted by the recession, with 57% reporting reduced household income. We are putting the final touches on a survey summary, and will have it available to the community in June.

STACKING WOOD IS EXCELLENT STRENGTH TRAINING

Why simply lift weights when you can get the same benefits stacking wood for the community wood bank? For those who prefer to multi-task, or would rather not put good energy to waste, we invite you to exercise with us this fall at one or more wood bank trainings. Choose from cutting, splitting, tossing, and stacking. (Yes, we need some new and energized wood bank volunteers this fall—call Kristen at 588-2620 or talk with Wayno, Ben Pratt or any of the Martels.)

GRAPEVINE BLACK FLY COMMUNITY ART SHOW

JUNE 4 & 5TH

- Adults join us on Friday evening 5:30-7:30 for an art open house featuring art of preschoolers and elementary aged children, as well as teens. Nice opportunity to visit with neighbors and learn more about The Grapevine programs, and participate in community art making. Light hors d'oeuvres, beverages, and chocolate will be served. Please RSVP.

- Families (children of all ages) join us Saturday morning anytime between 10:00-12:00 to view the community art of children and youth. Various arts & crafts stations will provide lots of fun! Participate in a community art-making project. Please RSVP.

2ND ANNUAL END-OF-THE-SCHOOL-YEAR HIKE

Meet at McCabe Forest on Friday, June 25th. The hike from 10:00-12:00 will focus on birds, so if you have binoculars bring them along. This is a family hike, and parents are required to accompany the children. Bring a snack and water, and be prepared for bugs. \$5 per child - parents are free! Please call to sign up.

FREE HELP AROUND THE HOUSE AND YARD

Summer is a great time to join the Exchange—if you'd like some help with gardening, yard work, house painting, or bicycle repair, or if you'd like to learn to sail, swim, or kayak, let us know! Call Gerry at 588-2620, or email PeoplesServiceExchange@hotmail.com for more information.

“OUR WILD BACKYARD” SUMMER AT THE GRAPEVINE – JULY 6 THROUGH AUGUST 13

Better Beginnings Parent-Child Program, Tuesdays 9:30-11:30—for parents and their children (18 months to 5 years of age). Children play and learn in a fun and nurturing environment while parents have some “adult time” and discussion about parenting and other topics. Outdoor summer fun includes water play, gardening, bubbles, nature walks, and more! School-age siblings welcome—we have games and opportunities to help with the little kids. Sliding scale fee, call now to sign up.

Our Wild Backyard Adventure for young children. Two week-long programs for children ages 4–6 years. Carol Lunan M.Ed., our Learning Vine teacher and former Harris Center

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educator, leads the programs with our Early Childhood Educator Beth Bradford. Activities include investigating flying creatures, creepy crawlers, and swimming bugs; exploring mud and water; and scavenger hunts, hikes, nature stories, songs, crafts, and painting. This is a wonderful opportunity for young children to discover the natural world—and their place in it!—with their peers under the guidance of our early childhood educators. July 12-16, 9-12:30 and August 9-13, 9-12:30

Parents are welcome to drop off their children or stay for all or part of the morning. Call by June 30 to register. \$100 per session, call about partial scholarships.

Summer Science Camp for 7-9 year olds with Carol Lunan and Rachel Lunan-Hill, back by popular demand! August 2-6 from 9:00-1:00. A few spaces left—call now. \$100 for the week, call about partial scholarships.

PLANNING FOR FALL

Fall Better Beginnings Pre-Registration: Playgroups, Baby Group and Parents of School-Age Children—Call now for a space in the Fall!

- **Better Beginnings parent-child program**—Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 to 11:30—Young children (to age 5) play and explore with guidance from our early childhood educators while parents “put their feet up” and talk with our parenting educators and other parents about child-and family-centered topics.

- **Better Beginnings for Babies**—Fridays 10-11:30—parents, infants and new toddlers come together to play and talk with our early childhood educator and other parents about the joys and challenges of parenthood, including topics such as nutrition, breast and bottle feeding, crying, sleep issues (for baby and parents!), developmental expectations and more.

- **Better Beginnings in School**—Day and Time TBD by group—parents of school-age children meet with our parenting educator to talk about child development, natural and logical consequences, school, family communication, conflict resolution, problem solving, decision-making and a variety of other topics identified by parents. Home schooling parents welcome, childcare can be available.

Better Beginnings programs are offered on a sliding-scale fee. Call Beth at The Grapevine for more information.

Learning Vine Preschool—Looking for a preschool program for your 3 1/2 to 5 year old? Now enrolling for September 2010. Early June is a great time to visit—Call to schedule.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS 2010-2011

Call The Grapevine to pre-register your Antrim Elementary School or Great Brook School student in the Before or After School Club for the coming school year. Children currently enrolled will have priority until June 15. The programs provide before and after school-care Monday through Friday, and include time to finish homework, games, and activities.

APPLY FOR FOOD STAMPS AND MORE

The Grapevine is part of a pilot program to streamline the application process for assistance from the state, including Cash Assistance - Healthy Kids Medical Insurance - Medical Coverage for Pregnant Women - Food Stamps - Child Care Assistance - Medicare Beneficiary assistance. “NH Easy” allows people to apply at The Grapevine, with help from trained Grapevine staff, so that just one appointment is needed at the Keene District Office to finalize the application. Call 588-2620 for an appointment.

THANK YOU

- To the many volunteers and donors who kept the wood bank supplied last winter. Many families received wood over the winter, thanks to the work and generosity of this community.

- To the people who supported The Grapevine with a financial contribution during our 2009-10 annual appeal campaign. There's still time to add your name to the list, which will be on the town website at the close of the campaign (June 30).

- To the voters in Antrim for your support at Town Meeting once again.

WISH LIST

Cordless phone, rechargeable flashlight, digital camera, bath tissue, paper towels, recycled office supplies, wheelbarrow, and help keeping the flower beds weeded.

The Grapevine is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit family and community resource center located at 4 Aiken Street, behind the Tuttle Library. For more information call 588-2620. ☙

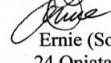
Nina Harding
63 Pleasant Street
Antrim, New Hampshire 03440

I always read the Limerick with a lot of interest as it is my only connection to my home town. Your article about the switchboard brought back many memories. However, I must admit I do not remember going for bread when I was five, but I do remember my family using the Antrim switchboard for all kinds of assistance.

Today, no responsible parent would send a five year old to the store, even one as smart as me. I am so glad that folks remember that time in Antrim as I treasure my memories, keep writing stories that tell about Antrim.

It meant so much to me that you remembered that particular episode.

Thank you


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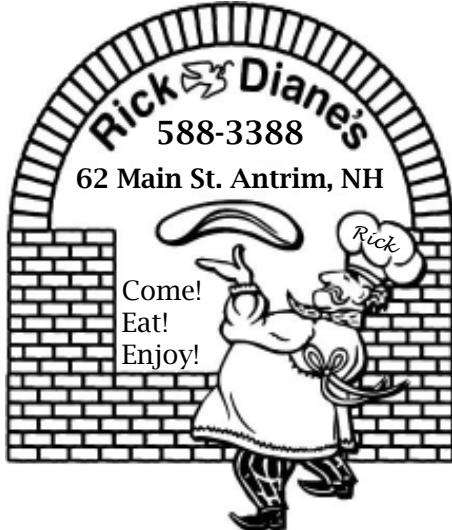
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