

## BRING BACK OUR CIVIL WAR SOLDIER



### VOTE "YES" ON ARTICLE #11

Al Gould

It is very rare in one's lifetime to have the opportunity to participate and vote on something "forever." It is even more rare to do it twice. The first time was in March of 2011 when the people of Antrim overwhelmingly said "Yes" to Article 11 of the town warrant to build a new town war memorial from our native granite. Those soldiers from the Revolution and the three subsequent wars could never have imagined that 235 years later their names would be enshrined forever. Their sacrifices are the reason we have the open public forum and the right to vote. For that we are eternally grateful.

At 1:05 pm on the afternoon of May 5, 2011, the concrete was poured for the base of the new monument. The site was prepared by the Antrim Highway Department which, in the process, found the missing time capsule from 1892. At 9:00 am on May 28, 2011, the new gran-

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**TOWN ELECTIONS • MARCH 13 • TOWN HALL • 8 AM-7 PM**  
**TOWN MEETING • MARCH 15 • TOWN GYM • 7 PM**

### VOTE "YES" ON WIND ORDINANCE

Jesse Lazar

Make sure to vote "yes" on the proposed Large Scale Wind Facilities Ordinance. The proposed wind ordinance establishes standards for the construction of wind power facilities. It is necessary to have standards in place, whether you would like to encourage more renewable development, or you are concerned about impact on existing residences. Without an ordinance in place, no development of this kind can be permitted by the Antrim Planning Board. This set of standards is not going to be exactly what everyone wants in every aspect, but the board has come together on this because it is so important to have a set of standards in place. If we wait until the next time a developer comes to Antrim to adopt this ordinance, it will be too late.

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### VOTE "NO" ON WIND ORDINANCE

Steve MacDonald

As a candidate for a seat on the Antrim Planning Board in the elections on March 13, I have been asked for an opinion on the wind energy ordinance proposed by the Antrim Planning Board that will appear on the March 13 ballot. I am not opposed to regulation, but I will vote "no" on the proposed ordinance because I do not believe it encompasses the interests of a sufficiently broad range of Antrim citizens.

First, the current proposal grew out of a movement to defeat or severely restrict the wind energy project proposed by the Eolian corporation in the Antrim Rural Conservation Zone. Since then it has evolved to be an ordinance to address the issue of wind energy independent of the Eolian project because that project is now under the jurisdiction of

*—continued on page 4*

## ANTRIM POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Scott R. Lester

I would like to take this opportunity to update you on the status of a new police station. When I began working here in 2008, research into the need for a new police station had been discussed for several years and finding a site was well underway. After the 2009 Town Meeting a citizen committee to review all options on design, location, and future needs was established. After several meetings they agreed with the need for

a new station and provided two options. The first was to use the Mill Building on Main Street and the second was to build new on the fire station property. We developed designs for the Mill Building, but before purchasing options were fully discussed, the town was overwhelmed with financial concerns. Discussions regarding a new police facility were halted and the interest in the mill building lost its steam.

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

## ADVERTISING FEES

Half Page (Back Page)	\$75 per issue
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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Limrik accepts letters to the editor of maximum length of 250 words. The content is subject to approval (see policy on page 8). Mail letters to Editor, Limrik, PO Box 84, Antrim, NH 03440 or by e-mail to Lyman Gilmore at: [lyman-gil@comcast.net](mailto:lyman-gil@comcast.net).

## CREDITS

Andras Lazar photos by Lyman Gilmore. Festival of Trees photo by Michelle Boulé.

## NEWS DEADLINE

News deadline is the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding each issue. Issues are published in March, June, September, and December. For the June issue, copy deadline is May 10. Please e-mail your article to Lyman Gilmore at: [lyman-gil@comcast.net](mailto:lyman-gil@comcast.net).

## Antrim Police Department continued from page 1

As the town regained financial stability, town leaders again explored several considerations regarding renovating the current space, purchasing an existing building to renovate, or building new next to the fire station. We have recently contacted the owners of the land in front of the Post Office and found that they may be willing to sell the lot. We feel this would be a great option but would need funding in a timely manner if a deal could be reached. At Town Meeting you will be asked to vote on a warrant article that would appropriate money to be used toward research and development of a suitable police station. The funds could also be used to purchase land if the opportunity arose.

I'm still in favor of building a new facility at the fire station but remain open to any viable option. The idea of building next to the Antrim Fire Station will satisfy all our concerns. The town owns enough property for a new building. The money saved on purchasing land would be applied to building costs. The access to the Fire and Police departments together would be convenient to residents and advantageous to both departments.

We work hard to provide the best service we can to the community and ask for your support in passing the proposed warrant article to continue with research and development of a new police facility.

Spring is coming! We all know that the sun and warmer weather brings out children on their bikes and more people walking, so please take care while driving. Due to recent incidents highlighted in the news involving car crashes with horseback riders, I was asked by Beth Merrill to provide the laws pertaining to horses on the roadways.

**NH RSA 265:5** Applies to the riders or drivers and provides any person riding any animal or driving any animal-drawn vehicle upon a roadway all the rights and shall be subject to all the duties applicable to the driver of any vehicle.

**NH RSA 265:104** Applies to persons driving vehicles as they are "Approaching Horses." Every person having control or charge of a vehicle shall, whenever upon any way and approaching any horse, drive, manage, and control such vehicle in such a manner as to exercise every reasonable precaution to prevent the frightening of such horse, and to insure the safety and protection of any person riding or driving the same.

On behalf of all the members of the Antrim Police Department, we greatly appreciate all your past and future support. ☺

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## JOZSEF ANDRAS LAZAR MASONRY ARTIST ESCAPE FROM COMMUNIST HUNGARY

By Dick Winslow

“I was six years old. It was very cold. Our neighbor, Pali Vajda, offered his wheelbarrow to carry our luggage and helped us get to the train station, about an hour’s walk. My parents packed two suitcases, we wore two of everything, and we caught the first train out. From what I can remember, we went two stops north of Csorna, a two hour train ride, and got off at a small village which is about a six mile walk down a dirt road surrounded by fields and woods to an escape bridge, located about five miles south of the Austrian town of Andau. My dad hired a farmer with a horse-drawn wagon that was only big enough for the luggage and all the children. My sister remembers sitting up front with the driver and her toes getting extremely cold. The grownups all walked along side the wagon. When we got near, but not in sight of, the bridge, the driver had us unload the wagon so he could go back and not be seen in case there were Russians at the watch tower. It was very dark. We waited in the road while my dad went up ahead to make sure it was safe, then he came back and took us across the bridge. Once across the bridge we were led off the road and down an embankment where we hid until daylight and could see that it was O.K. The Austrians had been there and flashed their headlights at us but we had not seen them until then.”

This is Antrim’s Andras (a.k.a. Andre) Lazar speaking to me in my living room about his family’s escape in 1956 from Communist Hungary into Austria and eventually to the U.S.A. His English is so perfect and devoid of accent that it had never previously occurred to me, though I’ve know him some 30 years, that he’d been born abroad. By the way, he very much enjoys speaking Hungarian and does so frequently over the phone with his 90 year old mother.



*D.W.* You referred to grownups, plural, and children in the group planning to escape. How many were there?

*A.L.* There were 3 families, each with two children: Imre and Kati Kaszas with an infant daughter and seven year old Peter; Zoltan and Zsuzsi Spitzer with their two girls, 5 year old Eva and 10 year old Marika; and of course my parents, Imre and Lilly Lazar, with my 10 year old sister Juli (Julianna) and me.

After getting into Austria, the Austrians took us to a nearby place to rest and where they could question us. The next day we were in a train filled with other refugees on our way to a refugee camp at Salzburg. At all the train stops there were people who knew about the refugees and gave us candy and chocolate. The Salzburg refugee camp was full so they took us to what had been an old ski lodge/hotel in the Austrian Alps where we stayed for three months. It was very crowded but they took good care of us and we had a good stay there.

*D.W.* Was there an element of luck in your escape?

*A.L.* Yes. The Russians had for some reason abandoned the Andau watch tower and bridge. For a couple of weeks they ‘looked the other way’ and let the trouble makers escape. By the way, James Michner wrote a book titled *The Bridge at Andau* whose story roughly parallels that of my family. After our escape, word was that the Russians had blown up the bridge.

Andras was born in 1950 in the small northern Hungarian city of Papa and lived there until the escape in 1956, right after the brief but bloody Hungarian Revolt against the Russian occupiers. The Revolt began on October 23rd and was crushed by the Russians on November 4th although there was sporadic fighting and a general strike by Hungarian workers for another three weeks which helped make the escape possible. The escape occurred on November 14th.

When I asked Andras about his Hungarian childhood, he said there were many happy memories but also a deep sadness that he had no extended family. His grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins, had all died in Nazi gas chambers. His mother had survived two notorious Nazi concentration camps and a labor camp—one at Auschwitz, then a labor camp in Bremen and another concentration camp at Bergen-Belsen—but her parents and grandparents had all gone to the gas chamber and her sister had died of typhus brought on by near starvation conditions at Bergen-Belsen.

*D.W.* During WWII, Hungary was first a fascist state controlled by the Nazis, then a communist state controlled by the Russians. How had your father managed to survive?

*A.L.* The Hungarians did not have concentration camps. Instead, they had forced labor and labor battalions for the Jewish men. The Munkaszolgalat

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After the first proposal was voted down it was unclear how to proceed. The reality is that board members had different explanations of what voters were thinking and what they wanted from the Planning Board. The board decided that it was its duty to Antrim to make another effort. The Planning Board has adopted the new ordinance by a unanimous vote, and until the March 13 town vote is counted that is the best indicator I have that this ordinance represents what a majority of residents want.

The Planning Board made an effort to consider the ordinance from every angle, and to ensure that it will work the way residents want. The ad-hoc committee did a phenomenal amount of work in creating the original draft of the ordinance. There have been six public hearings on the ordinance from August 30 through February 6, in addition to all of the regular meetings, at which the Planning Board took comments from the public. In addition, the ordinance has been reviewed by Town Counsel, and by Carol Ogilvie, a professional planning consultant; this review was specifically focused on the legality of the proposed ordinance. The ordinance is ready to be implemented, but no amount of review can guarantee that people will stop making claims against it. If you are uncertain about any portion, please pick up the phone and call a board member and ask for clarification (you can also email me at [jesse205@gmail.com](mailto:jesse205@gmail.com)).

If we expect our government to function effectively we have to do our part; we cannot simply expect the State to do for us what we need to do for ourselves. There are no easy answers with local planning and zoning as these decisions will have a real impact on people, but putting off the decisions, or simply avoiding the difficult issues, is not acceptable. Antrim must have a wind ordinance in place so that the Planning Board is ready to deal with local wind development in the future. Even in a case where the state takes jurisdiction of a project, there is an expectation that the town will have an ordinance in place. Not having an ordinance in place is not having a voice. If you would like to do what's right for Antrim, vote in favor of the proposed Large Scale Wind Facilities Ordinance. ☞

the NH Site Evaluation Committee (NHSEC). I believe the proposed ordinance has not sufficiently evolved from its original intent and many are hopeful, should it pass, that it will influence decisions to be made by the NHSEC although they will not under NH law be obligated to consider it. It proposes restrictions that exceed the recommendations provided by the board's own consultant and favors the interests of those who have opposed wind energy in Antrim.

Second, I believe in the interest of producing an ordinance to influence the NHSEC, it has been rushed and consequently has a number of flaws the most prominent of which are its arbitrary features. Any ordinance should endeavor to provide measurable guidelines so that as time goes on the current and future planning boards will have a clear, objective basis for decisions. As a case in point, consider the following from the proposed ordinance which I believe best illustrates my point: "In the issuance of the Conditional Use Permit, the Planning Board may attach reasonable conditions to an approval that it deems necessary, or to minimize any burden on any person affected by the proposed LWEF." In other words anyone could raise an objection of any kind for any reason which could lead to an unknown restriction on the project. How is the current board or any future board to apply this? How will this or a future board determine what is "necessary"? Based on what? How would we know whether any "reasonable conditions" were indeed reasonable? Could a condition like this make its way into future ordinances to serve as an obstruction to growth and broadening of the tax base? I believe the proposal is arbitrary and unworkable and opens the door to further conflict.

I have no doubt the planning board has struggled with the challenge to craft an ordinance that will address the interests of a broad range of Antrim citizens. A project the size this proposal addresses would be a first in Antrim and have many technical and complex factors needing to be addressed as well as the range of interests among the citizens of Antrim. I do not believe, however, that the current proposal achieves that goal. There is much more that could be said—and has been—in the numerous meetings, hearings, votes, and local print media. Whatever your view, please register your vote on March 13. ☞



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## CONVAL WARRANT HAS FOUR KEY QUESTIONS

Mary Allen  
ConVal School Board

ConVal district voters will be facing a shorter-than-normal warrant on March 13<sup>th</sup>. Despite its abbreviated length, four questions need more than a quick read.

**The bond.** The first article is actually the district's third try at fixing the accessibility problems in the ConVal High School gym. In 2010, a larger request fell just 23 votes shy of the 60 percent margin needed to pass. As the saying goes, the school board is hoping "the third time is the charm."

This vote calls for bonding authority up to \$4 million and will primarily address the gym wing's shortcomings to the Americans with Disabilities Act. But unlike the other two bonding attempts, this article includes upgrades to the 40-year-old high school gymnasium, including new flooring, lighting, acoustical ceiling panels and a divider curtain.

The \$4 million bond will be repaid over 10 years with an interest rate of about 3 percent. About \$1 million in state aid will help offset those payments. Antrim taxpayers with a home valued at \$200,000 will pay about \$36 more a year for the life of the bond.

Detailed information on this plan is available on the ConVal website ([www.conval.edu](http://www.conval.edu)) and the link to the high school website. This article must get a 60 percent majority to pass.

**The budget.** ConVal's total operating budget is up 1.39 percent over last year. Budget drivers include higher fuel costs, higher health care and retirement costs, and salary increases. Decreasing enrollments have eliminated teaching and para-professional positions across the district.

**The SRO petition:** Last year, after several years of talk about adding a School Resource Officer, the school board put that question on the 2011 warrant, asking for \$50,000 to hire a police officer at the high school for this year. Last March, that measure failed in eight of the ConVal nine towns and passed by a very narrow margin in Peterborough.

This year, the school board voted 7-6 not to bring this question forward again. Supporters of the SRO plan circulated a petition and got enough signatures to place the question directly on the warrant without school board action.

For those unfamiliar with the term, a School Resource Officer is a police officer hired by the district and assigned to duties at a school and during after-school events. The SRO is a member of a local police department (in this case Peterborough) and works for the local municipality when school is not in session. The school district and the Town of Peterborough would sign a Memorandum of Understanding, which spells out the officer's duties and the financial arrangements.

Article 6 calls for \$67,500 to hire an officer for 2012-13. The most frequently asked questions about the SRO are: Will he/she be armed? Will the officer be in uniform? Does the SRO have arrest powers? Does the SRO work with the current high school staff? The answer to all of these questions is yes.

This article has the support of all the police chiefs in the ConVal district and is also supported by the high school principal. The school board has not changed its vote.

**The Model Study petition:** Two members of the ConVal Model Study Committee are asking for voters' reaction to one of five models to reconfigure ConVal's schools and grades. Their petition calls for moving all 5<sup>th</sup> grades back to hometown elementary schools, closing one middle school, and sending all 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders to a single middle school.

Voters should be aware of two important things when they vote on this question.

First, this question is only advisory. To take effect, voters would have to approve a change to the Articles of Agreement by at least a 66.7 percent affirmative vote. This petition is designed to get a sense of support for this option and is not designed to change the Articles.

Second, this model is just one of five being studied. The study committee plans numerous presentations and surveys throughout the district before making its recommendation for next year's warrant.

Crista Salamy, one of Antrim's school board members, is a member of this important study committee. Her opinion piece on the upcoming vote is printed below. 

## CONVAL RECOMMENDATION

Crista Salamy, Conval School Board

The Conval Model Study Committee charge was "to develop a comparative model of our current educational structure, options for the board and for public discussion, on different financial and infrastructure models for school grade configurations and their impact on educational decisions."

Our group consisted of teachers, parents, administrators, a selectman and school board members. We worked to find information based on historical, future, financial and educational data. It has been an interesting process for all of us. We were able to work on five different models that have five different impacts. Some of the models were more financially based than others, potentially saving us anywhere from a couple of hundred thousand dollars to over a million dollars. Some of the models may indeed add money to the district budget.

Our charge was to find models that would be appealing to the many different walks of life in our district and see which seemed to be the most viable model for the 2013-2014 school year. We wanted to work on making it helpful for each and every voter in our district. Every voter in the district needs to know all of the impacts our district will face in the future. It is then up to the individual voter to decide what they feel is best for our district. Due to time constraints our committee faced, we voted to wait until next year to put something on the warrant *after* we have had ample time to inform all of the voters without rushing the process. We need to hear what all of you are thinking and take that into consideration before putting one particular model on a warrant.

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ite monument was placed and included two time capsules in the base, one dedicated to the four most recently deceased veterans of Antrim, and the other for town artifacts.

At this point, the total cost of the monument is \$12,900, or \$.54 per pound for six tons of concrete and six tons of granite.

The upcoming article at town meeting will ask the people of Antrim for the sum of \$25,000 for the bronze Civil War soldier. Should the article prevail, in a section of America where history is rich and families date back to the Mayflower, we will have passed on our ancestors' history, as well as our own, to our descendants.

The plan is to have the old zinc soldier, who served us faithfully for over 100 years, to be taken to New England Sculpture in Boston where a mold will be made of him (you might say a clone). The new soldier will be cast in bronze. The old soldier will not, in any way, be damaged and he will return to Antrim for an honorable retirement.

Our bronze soldier will weigh about 400 pounds and will be one-quarter inch thick. Some of the advantages of bronze are that it can be mechanically repaired, sections can be replaced and it can be welded. The first use of bronze in statues and monuments dates back to 3000 BC. It is actually close to granite for longevity ("forever"). In 2006 a bronze soldier at the Gettysburg National Battlefield was vandalized. It was pushed over and his head stolen. The National Park Service

started a nationwide search for a like soldier. In 2010 one was located in Manchester, NH. The Park Service sent experts to NH where they made a mold of the head and the Gettysburg soldier stands, once again, complete.

By town meeting time we should have a tentative date when the soldier would be completed. There will be provisions for more time capsules which should give more time to think about what is to be placed in them (i.e. veterans, historical society, civic organizations).

Over the past year we have had donation containers placed around town. We have received donations from many including the Antrim Police Department and some private donors with more expected. If you are able to donate, it will be gratefully received. Donations may be made to Ben Pratt the town treasurer or left at the tax collector's office which will forward them to Ben. The town has a separate account for these donations so the money won't vanish into the infamous "Black Hole." When the project is complete the town will have a ceremony attended by Antrim residents who are related to names on the statue honoring the soldiers on the statue and present town's people who made this possible for our future generations.

Thanks to the people of Antrim and to all the volunteers who have given their time, equipment and support thus far. Hope to see you at town meeting. ☪



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## ANTRIM SELECTMEN'S REPORT

John Robertson

2012 has been very busy for your selectmen. Much time has been spent in preparing the 2012 budget and warrant articles for March Town Meeting. At this writing the hearing for the budget is but a week away.

The Selectboard has met with Bennington Selectmen and engineers to plan for the replacement of the Depot St. Bridge over the Contoocook River. Cost of this project is to be split 50/50 with Bennington. We have made preliminary plans to rehab and replace two other bridges on Depot Street. Hopefully all three can be done at the same time, and all three bridges are to be 80% supported with state funds.

There was a large voter turnout for the presidential primary, and we thank all those who voted and especially those who helped at the polls. On the Tuesday March 13th ballot the Planning Board's revised wind ordinance will appear, the full text of which is on the Antrim website. Copies are also available at The Town Hall.

Antrim Wind has filed its application with the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee, and hearings will be held beginning in late spring or early summer. A copy is in the Town Hall for viewing.

There is an article on the Conval warrant to eliminate one of the middle schools. You can contact any School Board Member or the Conval website for more information.

Currently your selectboard is meeting with Antrim Wind to meet the challenges of the "pilot" (Payment In Lieu Of Taxes) agreement and the contract to operate.

Elections are March 13 and Town Meeting is March 15. We look forward to seeing everyone. Our 2011 Town Report is available at the Town Hall during normal business hours. ☺

## ODD FELLOWS IN ANTRIM

Sam Harding & Rod Zwirner

It was not unusual to find an odd fellow or two in Antrim throughout the history of the town. However they did not gather and meet officially as a group until 1876 on February 1<sup>st</sup>. On that date Waverley Lodge No. 59 of the I.O.O.F. (International Order of Odd Fellowship) "granted dispensation and followed with charter" becoming a subordinate lodge of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire.

Eight charter members and ten new members of Waverley Lodge No. 59 held a first meeting with the Right Worthy Grand Master of NH, George Cummings presiding during the inaugural ceremony. Odd Fellows from all over were in attendance traveling to Antrim by rail, coach, and carriage for the festivities. "At nine o'clock the Odd Fellows, to the number of two hundred, proceeded to the hall of Mrs. Mary E. Woodbury, the use of which had been kindly granted for the occasion, and partook of a bountiful collation which had been prepared by the Antrim brethren and their ladies." (Noted in the *History of Antrim* by the Rev. W.R. Cochran, circa 1887.)

Such festivities and related travel were common in those days as fledgling lodges were opening up all over New Hampshire, and the total number of Odd Fellow Lodges soon exceeded 100, with Antrim's being the 59<sup>th</sup>. Visitation and travel between neighboring lodges was common practice in the 1800's, spreading fellowship and sharing. This remains true at the state and regional levels today. In one memory of an early visitation, over 100 members from Waverley Lodge traveled to a District Meeting in Contoocook by train, and as snow fell all day, it required two locomotives to pull coaches of visiting brothers homeward that evening.

The first meeting of the new Lodge was held on the second floor of Waverley Hall, owned by Mrs. Woodbury and named for her interest and understanding of Sir Walter Scott's *Waverley Chronicles*. The name "Waverley" was adopted by the Odd Fellows charter members with careful thought given to its significance. (Records indicate the name "Pocahontas Lodge" was given serious consideration.) The Lodge spent only a few years at this location as the building was shared by the town and school children, and it soon became the "new"

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**UNDER ONE WOOF!**

Two of our Model Study Members decided to take the model they feel is best for the district and move it forward to the warrant this year. The warrant reads as follow: "Shall the Contoocook Valley School District maintain all current Elementary Schools, educate Grades K-5 in those existing Schools and Grades 6-8 in one Middle School for the District?" This action is premature and circumvents the very process we were trying to do. In order for everyone to understand and decide which one is the best model, they really need to see all of them, not just one! Perhaps this warrant article brought forward for this March is the right one and the most popular, but perhaps it is not. I would hate for people to decide the fate of not only their wallets but the fate of our children's education on the notion that this one model is the one and only model to consider. As a member of the Model Study Committee, I am asking you to wait until you hear the pros and cons of all of the models and cast your vote in the 2013 March ballot as was intended.

### BOAT REGISTRATION

Donna Hanson, Town Clerk

The Town of Antrim Town Clerk's office is pleased to announce that we are now able to process boat registrations. You do not have to live in the town of Antrim to register your boat at the Antrim office. If you have any questions please call 588-6785 ext 223 or email [antrimtc@tds.net](mailto:antrimtc@tds.net).

Donna Hanson, Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Town of Antrim, PO Box 517, Antrim, NH 03440.

### LETTERS POLICY

The Limrik welcomes letters to the editor on matters of public interest. The maximum length is 250 words. The editorial staff reserves the right to approve, edit and condense all letters submitted. Letters must be the original work of the author and must include name, address, e-mail, and telephone number. All letters are verified by phone before publication. Letters that contain language that is blasphemous, obscene, legally objectionable, or commercial in nature will not be published.

Mail letters to Editor, Limrik, PO Box 84, Antrim, NH 03440 or by e-mail to Lyman Gilmore at: [lyman-gil@comcast.net](mailto:lyman-gil@comcast.net).

Deadline is the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication.

## ESCAPE FROM SALISBURY PRISON

Robin Rockwell

I wrote a previous article about my great-great-grandfather, Elijah Grace, who was captured during the Civil War and later died in a Confederate prison camp in Salisbury, NC. It was known as Salisbury Prison and conditions there were horrific. Over 5,000 POWs perished and were buried in eighteen 240-foot long trenches.

Another Salisbury prisoner came from Antrim's neighboring town of Stoddard. His name was Charles Thurston and he enlisted at the age of 22. His regiment, the 6<sup>th</sup> NH, was organized in Keene and left by train for Washington DC on Christmas Day, 1861. His road to Salisbury Prison, however, took a different path than that of Elijah.

Thurston fought in several renowned battles. The first two were the Second Battle of Bull Run (August 30, 1862) and Antietam (September 16, 1862). A third took place at Fredericksburg, VA, on December 13, 1862, where Elijah Grace's 10<sup>th</sup> NH Regiment also participated. Thurston was wounded in this battle. Sometime later, Thurston rejoined his regiment and was again wounded on July 30, 1864, this time at Petersburg, VA, in what became known as the Battle of the Crater. (A scene from the movie "Cold Mountain," which you can watch on YouTube: Cold Mountain-Battle of Petersburg, recreates this battle.) Union forces had dug a tunnel beneath the Confederate Army and set off explosives creating a huge crater, 30 feet deep. Onrushing Union soldiers, trapped by the steep walls of the crater, were cut down by the Confederates, resulting in a disastrous defeat. The South's general, William Mahone, called it a "turkey shoot." There were over 2,000 Union casualties.

Two months later, Thurston was back in action once again, this time at Poplar Springs Church in Virginia. He was captured on September 30, 1864, along with his brother, Frank, who was sixteen years old. Frank had enlisted nine months earlier to join his brother. They were transported to Salisbury Prison where conditions there were beginning to grow worse.

Eight days later, on October 27, 1864, Elijah Grace was captured in the Second Battle of Fair Oaks in Virginia in which the Confederates took six hundred prisoners, sixty-one from the 10<sup>th</sup> NH Regiment. Elijah would now join the Thurston brothers. Salisbury Prison had become exceedingly overcrowded with a prison population in excess of 10,000. Rations and supplies were depleted. There was little shelter, resulting in disease and fever running rampant and spreading easily among the prisoners. Scores of prisoners suffered and died daily.

Escape attempts were common, but the most valiant occurred on November 25, 1864, when prisoners armed with clubs and rocks surprised and overwhelmed the guards. They grabbed the guards' rifles and headed for an opening in the fence. Unfortunately, they were overpowered by a Confederate regiment that was waiting to be transported at a nearby

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## THE BROWNS' DOUGHNUT DAY

Charles Butterfield

Do you know Hattie Brown Road? Like a few other roads in Antrim, Hattie Brown goes nowhere and nobody lives there. But if you're equipped with hiking boots and trekking poles, the remnants of the old road will lead you to where lean and linear John Brown and his decidedly more spherical wife Hattie eked out an existence on the remotest farm in town—way the hell up beyond Gregg Lake.

Even when it was a working farm it was hard to get to, and for several months of the year was accessible only by horse or on foot. The adventures of the Browns, raising pigs and cattle and chickens among bears and foxes and porcupines, produced many a good yarn. The eponymous road pays tribute to the Browns' endurance and ingenuity, for sure, but also to one other thing: When I was growing up in Antrim, nearly everyone I knew had a favorite John and Hattie Brown story to tell.

Here's mine.

The particular doughnut day I'm remembering has a bright January sun creating crisp shadows and a polar air mass making snow squeak underfoot. It is 1943. John and Hattie Brown pull into our dooryard aboard their horse-drawn scoot to trade eggs for homemade doughnuts, a biweekly routine that on this doughnut day turned out to be memorable.

My mother, like many housewives of the era, though apparently not Hattie, made her own doughnuts. Mass-produced doughnuts were readily available in grocery stores in the 1940s, but then as now most people, and certainly the Browns, were of the opinion that machine-made doughnuts were like mush to mutton compared to those made at home. So my mother, as had her mother before her, set aside a couple of hours on Saturday morning for making several dozen, enough to last through the week. We didn't fill our pockets with doughnuts as Henry David Thoreau said he did, but we did take one in our lunch boxes to school or to work most days. By week's end, last Saturday's doughnuts, if any remained, were stale and tough, and it was time to make more.

Blame changes in American foodways, but frying doughnuts at home is becoming a forgotten craft. Is there any neighborhood in Antrim where kids can still go from house to house on Saturday morning and expect to be offered a hot, crusty doughnut fresh from the boiling lard?

Now the doughnut I have in mind, and the one the Browns have in mind as they steer their mare into our yard, bears only a scant resemblance, except in its roughly toroidal shape, to the frothy, sweet object you can watch being manufactured at Krispy Kreme franchises, or the creatively spiced and iced creations lined up on floodlit shelves in Dunkin' Donuts shops. The doughnuts I snagged on my Saturday morning kitchen crawl varied in size and color. Variations on the torus theme, some were hardly round at all, having been distorted, Dali-like, as they were lifted from the floured breadboard to the 375°F fat on the stove. Some women turned out doughnuts the color of top-grade maple syrup, others let the

dough fry to a rich brown, the color of strong tea. Some doughnuts came out bi-colored, usually the result of the cook being distracted. Often enough, a piece of one cooking doughnut would dislodge and hitch itself like a wart to another floating island and fry there. Watching the doughnuts assume their individual characters as they boiled in oil undoubtedly enhanced their taste. You knew the evolution of the doughnut you ate.

Neither the shape nor the color of my mother's doughnuts mattered to John or Hattie. They had not shoveled out their scoot and with cold hands harnessed and hitched up their horse in anticipation of anything other than the feel and taste of her warm, nutmeg-flavored doughnuts. They had not bundled up, each in a bear coat and hat in order to examine the doughnuts my mother had ready for them. They hadn't faced the cold wind behind a hair-shedding and farting mare for an hour or more on a sub-zero, January Saturday morning to pass judgment on the appearance of her doughnuts. Of course, they hadn't made the arduous trek only to entertain us, either, though on this doughnut day, they unintentionally did.

Once upon a time, the humble doughnut was not weighed down with the social bias it has gained in recent years. A homemade doughnut was a friendly thing once, something you offered to anyone making a visit—a social crutch, perhaps, but a comfortable one. Refreshments anywhere, save wedding receptions maybe, looked skimpy without homemade doughnuts on the table. Before our low-carb diets and cholesterol obsessions, the doughnut was looked upon as an energy source in an era when motorized labor-saving devices were in their infancy, and it took considerable people power to clean the house, groom the yard, or, as in the Browns' case, perform farm chores. A high-calorie doughnut was looked upon as a good thing, not a physiological disaster. Today, a doughnut has no redeeming value if you exclude its sociability.

On the Browns' doughnut day we looked forward to hearing John and Hattie recount an adventure at their isolated, mountainside farm, like taking out a rabid fox, or the latest in Hattie's predicaments, often a consequence of her five-by-five construction. Doughnut day was story day. We couldn't know that before they left the yard this particular doughnut day that the Browns would create a story before our eyes that we have been telling ever since.

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train station. Two guards were killed while the Union POWs had 13 killed, three mortally wounded, and 60 others wounded. Elijah Grace would die two weeks later on December 9, 1864, due to illness.

Charles Thurston heard rumors of an escape plan concocted by three Northern war correspondents, one of whom was Albert Richardson of the New York Tribune. They had been captured and deemed to be Union spies at Vicksburg, Mississippi, in May 1863. Thurston decided to join them.

On December 18, 1864, the three newspaper reporters along with a Union captain made their move. They had been given passes by the Confederates to unload medical supply wagons outside the prison walls. A Confederate officer who belonged to a secret society called "Sons of America" aided their escape attempt by relieving the guard at the outer perimeter.

Charles Thurston was close behind. He had managed to confiscate a Confederate uniform and walked through the gate with two unsuspecting Rebel soldiers. He met up with the other four in an abandoned building and thus began their long trek to freedom.

For 27 days in the dead of winter, they traveled by moonlight, hid in slaves' quarters, and received help from civilians that favored the North. They reached the Union lines at Knoxville, Tennessee, 340 miles later, on January 14, 1865, at which point Albert Richardson sent a telegram to the Tribune describing his newfound freedom as, "Out of the jaws of death; out of the mouth of hell." He would soon learn that his wife and infant daughter had died while he was in captivity.

In Richardson's book, *The Secret Service, The Field, The Dungeon, and the Escape*, published in 1865, he wrote, "Charley Thurston was our best foot, and we always put him foremost. With his Confederate uniform and his ready invention, he could play the rebel soldier admirably."

Charles Thurston returned to his regiment and was promoted to 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant on Feb 1, 1865. Four months later he was promoted again, this time to 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant. He mustered out of the army in July, 1865. He would make his home in Alabama and die six years later at the age of 31. His brother, Frank, survived Salisbury Prison and returned home to Stoddard. His wife would give birth to a son and name him

Charles in honor of his brother. Albert Richardson returned to the Tribune and was murdered in 1869 by a jealous ex-husband of his actress girlfriend, Abby Sage McFarland, who was originally from Manchester, NH. He was 36.

I want to thank my friend, John Diemond, for providing much of the research needed for this article. His uncle, Joe Diemond, resides in Bennington. I also used David Proper's book, *A Keene Sense of History*, volume II, as a reference. It was his book that inspired me to write this article. ☞

## ANTRIM BENNINGTON LIONS CLUB

Rick King

During the last three months our Lions Club has been busy selling Christmas trees, hosting a Community Supper, and conducting eye screening for local children six years and under.

**Christmas Tree Sale:** Our 2011 annual Christmas tree sale was held in late November and early December at Place in the Woods. Once again we were able to sell out the 125 trees we had ordered and it was nice to see so many coming back year after year to buy their trees from us. A special thanks to Place in the Woods for not only use of their space, but also help in selling trees during the week when we were not able to be there. Once again with the proceeds we were able to help out with Operation Santa and other local projects.

**Community Supper:** The Antrim Bennington Lions Club (in partnership with Antrim in Action) hosted the Community Supper at the Presbyterian Church on January 19, 2012, and had sixty-five diners attend. The menu was designed for all of us with busy schedules and finding the time for as many home cooked meals as we would like due to getting home from work late or working around the kid's sports schedules. The menu for the supper was created as a possible home cooked meal that is easy to prepare, nutritious and a reasonable cost. You can see the recipes for the black bean soup and chicken stirfry at the Lions website: [www.ablions.org](http://www.ablions.org).

**Eye Screening:** The week of January 30, 2012 we conducted free eye screening for children six years or younger at the Antrim Elementary School and The Grapevine. We tested 46 children with a Welch Allen SureSight Vision Screener checking for common vision problems. We will plan to do this again this fall. ☞



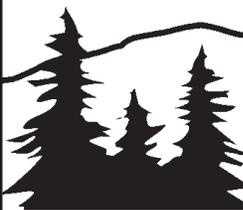
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## ANTRIM RECREATION DEPARTMENT LATE WINTER AND SPRING ACTIVITIES

Celeste Lunetta, Director

Thank you for your continued support of the Parks and Recreation Department Activities. Spring is a busy time for youth sports, the annual Bike Safety Rodeo and the Spring Egg Hunt, in addition to special programs for youth, families and adults. Here are the details!

**Youth Baseball and Softball** signups are due by March 12<sup>th</sup>. The registration cost increases by \$10 after that date. Partial scholarships and payment plans are available if you are in need. Participating in a team sport can have profoundly positive impact on a child, and their family, and we really want all kids to play! Teams are formed for kids ages 5 through 12, and registration forms are available at the Town Hall, Town Gym, and online. We need volunteers for field maintenance, set up, concessions, and fundraising.

**Youth Lacrosse:** This year, we are registering a girls' team and a boys' team in the New Hampshire Youth Lacrosse Association. Registrations for this are also due by March 12. Forms available online at [www.antrimnh.org](http://www.antrimnh.org).

Ongoing recreation programs include **Yoga** on Tuesday evenings, **Yogilates** on Thursday evenings, **Adult Volleyball** on Thursday evenings, and **Adult open Basketball** on Sunday evenings. **Zumba** classes are available on Tuesday or Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings.

**After-School swimming trips to Crotched Mountain:** this will be a four week session of after-school swimming. Starts on March 30, ends April 16. Cost includes transportation from Antrim Town Gym up to the pool, as well as supervision, some swimming instruction, and some free time for playing in the pool. Bus departs from Antrim at 3:20 pm, and returns at 5:15 pm. Cost is \$50 for residents, \$65 for non residents. Open to children in 3<sup>rd</sup> through 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Younger children can join us in the program, but need to be brought by an adult, and they can join in the lessons and pool time. Space on the bus is limited, so sign up early!

**Movies at Antrim Town Hall:** We will show the original Muppet Movie (1976), followed by the 2011 "The Muppets" on Friday March 23<sup>rd</sup>, starting at 5:30 pm. We will also be

showing *Midnight in Paris*, *the Descendants*, *Hop*, and *Sherlock Holmes-Game of Shadows*. Check the website: [www.antrimnh.org](http://www.antrimnh.org) for a schedule, as well as the Antrim Recreation Facebook page.

**Saturday April 7, Annual Spring Egg Hunt:** 10–11 am at Memorial Park. Bring your own basket. This wonderful event, sponsored by Antrim Friends of Recreation, starts promptly, and is designed for young children. This event is paid for and organized by the volunteer group, Antrim Friends of Recreation. This group needs families with younger children to start getting involved, for this and other family events like the annual tree lighting. Contact Celeste, Laurie Cass Griggs, Lauren Kirkpatrick, or Catrina Young for information on how to get involved.

**Saturday May 5<sup>th</sup>, Bike Safety Rodeo:** Antrim Recreation and Police, with the generous support of the Antrim-Bennington Lions Club, host the annual bike safety event. This will be at the Town Gym between 2:00 pm and 3:30 pm. Bike safety inspections, learn the rules of the road, enjoy our bike safety course, purchase inexpensive helmets and other gear, and decorate your bike.

**Back Roads & Cellar Holes:** Bob Holmes is working with the Recreation Department and the Historical Society to plan eight hikes on Saturday mornings, April 14<sup>th</sup> through July 21<sup>st</sup>. The hikes will be paired with discussions of local flora, local wildlife, local historical sites and more. We are very excited about this new program, and hope you will join us. Watch for more information to be released in mid-March, at the Town Meeting.

**Running and Walking for Fun:** Starting in April, we are organizing a get together downtown for 1, 3, and 5 mile walks and runs. On Tuesday and Thursday evening, meet up at Memorial Park and join other folks who want to go for regular 1 mile, 3 mile, or 5 mile walks or runs. The start and end point will be the same: downtown at Memorial Park, and at the end there will be a chance to get together, and socialize. Or just head out! It's helpful to get an exercise routine going when there are other people to motivate you! This program is scheduled to start on Tuesday April 17, 6:00 pm.

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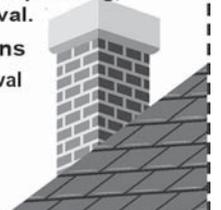
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(work service units) were treated with extreme cruelty, abuse and brutality. In 1944 when Hitler discovered that the Hungarians were secretly engaged in peace negotiations with England and the U.S. he installed the ruthless fascist leader, Ferenc Szalasi, and things got much worse for the Hungarians, especially Hungarian Jews. Deportation of the Jewish population to concentration camps began.

Near the end of the war my father escaped twice, the first time with another man: they hid in a cave and lived on roots and potatoes—but were captured by the Russians. He then escaped from another work camp and somehow made his way back to his hometown, Papa, where he found work. He met my mother in Papa where she was visiting with a friend whom she had met in Auschwitz. She had no one left in her own home town. By the time I was born, my father was managing a small clothing store and my mother, an expert seamstress, had as clients the wives of some Russian soldiers. We lived in a small, second floor apartment with a kitchen, which was also my mom's sewing room, a fair-sized room that was my parents' bedroom/living room, and a small narrow bedroom for me and my sister Juli. We also had a small bathroom.

*D.W.* Your father has been described to me as 'a small quiet man, very old world.' How did he manage to get his family—your mother and sister and you—out of Hungary and into Austria?

*A.L.* He was a courageous man. He and my mom had learned of the Andau escape route from friends, Dezso and Zsuzsi Hollis. When we made the escape that I've already described, it is my dad who is credited with its success—he was the leader.

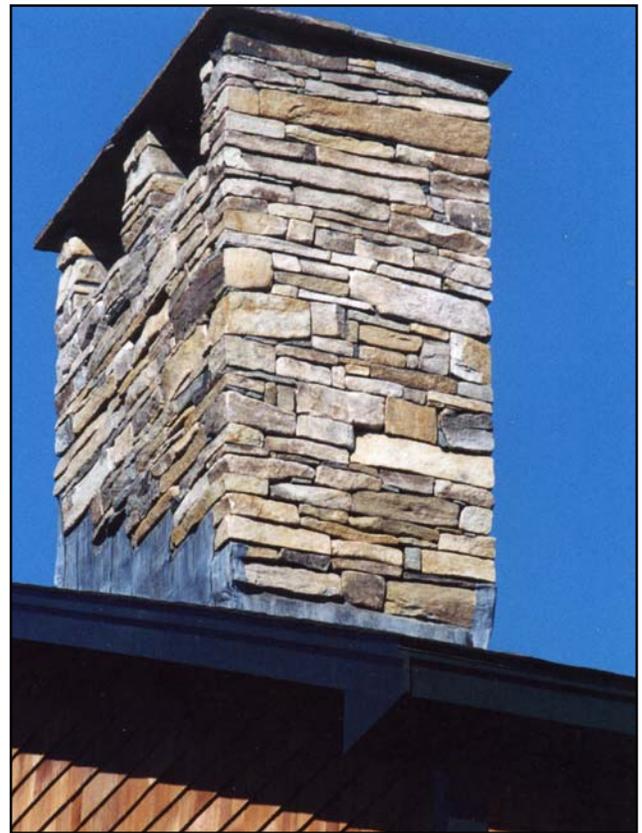
*D.W.* So how long were you in Austria?

*A.L.* Three months. After being in the old ski lodge—which I remember partly because of going hiking in the mountains and I went missing for a few hours until one of the adults reported that I was back at the lodge and the search was called off—we were taken to Salzburg for a few days, then flown to a U.S. army base in Germany, then to England to refuel, then to the United States. In the States, someone suggested that we settle in Boston; among other things, it was said to have good schools. In Boston, we were placed in Dorchester in

what used to be a Jewish community. There we stayed only about three months, then moved on to Alston for the next three years after which we made a permanent move to Brookline, a city with very fine schools. At that time I was in third grade.

*D.W.* How did you learn English?

*A.L.* In Alston, my sister and I were given some English language training, partly by the use of flash cards. When we moved to Brookline, I finished that school year going once a week to an English tutor until the end of the third grade. I remember being teased by kids on the playground about my clumsy English and pronunciation of words. There was a group of kids who said I was bad luck because I was a "commie." This treatment never became physical, but it made life difficult for the first couple of years in Brookline. Anyway, by the time I was 13 I spoke nearly perfect English.



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*D.W.* And you went right through high school in Brookline?

*A.L.* Yes. I graduated from Brookline High School and then went on to the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) to study photography. At that time, I thought I'd be a photographer.

*D.W.* Then what got you interested in masonry—in working with stone and brick?

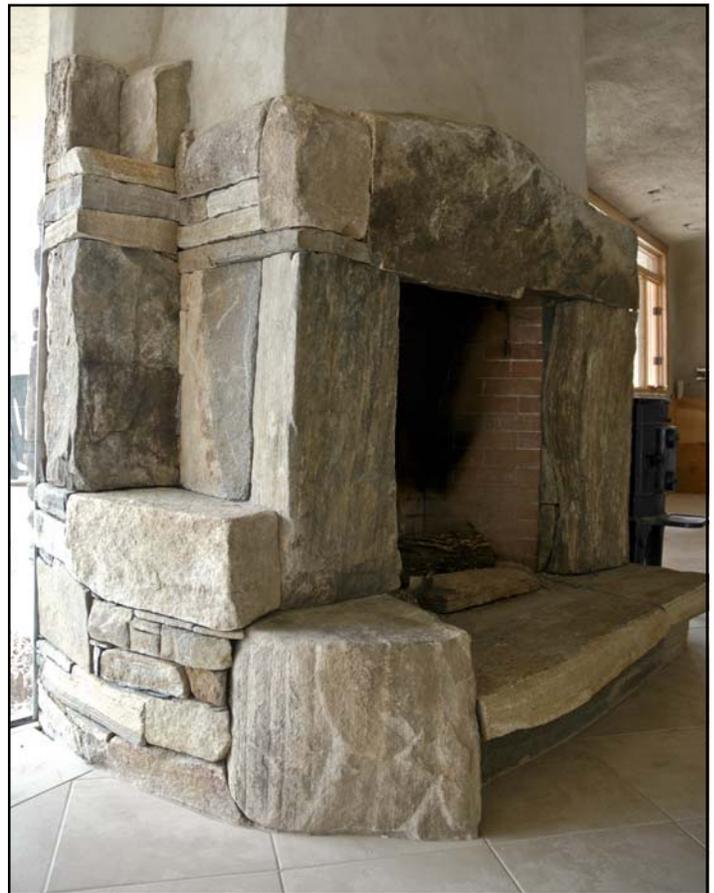
*A.L.* At RIT I met the glass artist Tom Meyers—you may know him, he used to live in Antrim but now lives in Hancock in a house that he and his wife built—and Tom interested me in the art of masonry. Matter of fact, it was Tom who interested me in coming to Antrim which I did in 1976; by then I had two children, Jesse and Rachel. At first we lived in Hillsboro but then, in 1979, I bought in Antrim the Archie Swett house at the southern corner of Main and Summer Streets where I now live with my wife, Karen Bennett. We married in 1994. She is a trained forester who works for the UNH Cooperative Extension and is now the N.H. Extension Forestry Specialist.

— • —

“You and your macho belligerent chimneys!” Andras laughs when he quotes these words from an architect with whom he once worked, but they serve to suggest the energy and originality and artistry that inhabit his work. Here are some of his thoughts: “I am a stonemason but I often work with brick and block. I love the challenge of building a fireplace, a masonry heater or a wood-fired bake oven with either a brick or a stone face. My preference is for stonework since it presents a greater challenge both physically and artistically. Brick and block present challenges of their own, but stone offers an infinitely greater number of possibilities for design and selection. There are many different types of available stone; the challenge is to choose what works best for a particular project. For a stonewall, I generally use what's available on site; if additional stone is needed I try to find appropriate local stone to match the on-site stone. For a fireplace, the stone needs to compliment the interior and look good up close as well as from a distance. My preference would be to use native fieldstone but this is often impractical, given available interior space. My style would show no mortar/cement joints. The biggest stones possible are fitted together

along with a variety of carefully chosen smaller ones and sometime ‘worked’ to give the appearance of the dry look.”

Andras's masonry work—chimneys, stone walls, fire places, masonry heaters, wood-fire bake ovens, patios, walkways, etc.—is to be found across the country and all over New England. In Antrim, for instance, there are stonewalls at the Alabama Farm on Smith Road, by the Stone Church at Antrim Center, and at the Cemetery atop Meeting House Hill. My own house has a Lazar interior brick wall and, leading up to the front steps, a herringbone-pattern brick walkway. One enters the Bennet-Lazar home from the Summer Street side via a lovely brick patio into a room containing a stunning glazed tile floor, a soapstone heater, and a separate stone baking oven, all creations of Jozsef Andras Lazar. ☞



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This bright, frigid morning John drove, and Hattie sat beside, each bundled head to toe in fur. Hattie, her face barely visible under her bearskin hat resting on her eyebrows, was but a large, furry ball. Smothered in thick, black *ursa* pelt, Hattie stayed in the scoot, too encumbered to get down, holding the reins and steadying the horse, while John came in the kitchen to do the trading.

The transaction was simple and cashless. For a dozen eggs John delivered to my mother, he took away a dozen-and-half fresh doughnuts, still hot from the deep pork fat my mother used to fry them, and flavored just the way the Browns liked them.

My mother's doughnuts tasted of nutmeg, a spice she didn't measure, but approximated—roughly half a teaspoonful to four cups of flour. Other women in the neighborhood used a combination of cinnamon and nutmeg, some added a little lemon zest, and still others relied on brown sugar to flavor their doughnuts. These days, designer doughnuts owe their taste and aroma to unorthodox ingredients—chamomile, guava and savory French fromage. Peanut butter, bacon, butternut squash, apple cider, and even *Fruit Loops* show up in some doughnut recipes. My mother was not inventive in this way, and that suited John, Hattie, and the rest of us just fine.

The barter completed, John hurried back to the low-slung scoot with his hot doughnuts in a paper bag and burrowed under the lap robe. The Browns were eager to finish their errands before the bright sun extinguished its meager warmth. No time for recounting the week's adventure this morning. They had to scoot (now you know the origin of that expression).

A scoot is not the same thing as a sleigh. A scoot is a working sled, not a pleasure vehicle. It has a much lower center of gravity than a sleigh. With its wide runners, a scoot can open roads to a wood lot or sugar bush in deep snow; a sleigh does better in a plowed or rolled track. A sleigh has an upholstered seat with armrests and a high, comfortable back; a scoot has a crude, hard, backless bench for a seat and behind it a long bed for carrying things. A sleigh is a graceful, manufactured conveyance; a scoot is a crude, box-like means of winter transport, and can be made by hand, and probably John's was.

We were never sure why what happened next happened. It

may have been John's rush to get back under the covers that upset the horse, or perhaps as Hattie passed John the reins she tugged them just enough to signal the horse that it was time to get moving again. At any rate, before round Hattie could prepare herself for the scoot's forward movement, it lurched under her. She went backwards off the bench, tumbled into the storage space behind, and continued rolling right off the back of the scoot before John caught on and called out "whoa" to the startled horse. Hattie, curled up like a woolly bear when you touch it, rolled across our yard until her mass finally brought her to rest. John jumped down, and the rest of us rushed to Hattie's aid. She was laughing and kicking, but like a bug on its back, she could not right herself. It took three of us, my mother, John, and me, to unroll the fur ball and lift it upright. Hattie's giggling was severely contagious.

With Hattie on her legs again, John threw the blanket that had cushioned their seat over the mare's back, and we went into the warm, aromatic kitchen, in conniptions as we went, to better assess Hattie's condition. Mother poured coffee while John and Hattie shed their winter coats. With a fresh doughnut each, and a cup of hot coffee, the Browns quickly recovered. The laughter continued partly out of relief that fur-padded Hattie was not bruised in any way and partly because we could not stop rerunning the image of the big ball rolling and rolling with Hattie inside.

There are those who will shake their heads and wag their fingers when doughnuts are mentioned. But who among them remembers such a doughnut day when they see the sign marking the entrance to Hattie Brown Road? ✂

## MISSING LIMRIKS

Lyman Gilmore

We are missing several early issues of the Limrik and hope that readers will have copies stashed away that we can either have or photocopy to make our archive complete. We need every issue from Volume 1, #1 (December 1991) through Volume 4, #2 (March 1995). If you have any or all of these and are willing to donate or have them copied, please let me know. [lyman-gil@Comcast.net](mailto:lyman-gil@Comcast.net) – 588 6860. Thank you. ✱



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## PASTOR PEGGI

Sandy Snow

More than 170 well-wishers and mourners filled the Antrim First Presbyterian Church Monday, Jan. 23, to say good bye to the Rev. Peggi K. Boyce who had been the church's pastor for about 10 years. The Rev. Boyce, 64, died January 19 at the Catholic Medical Center in Manchester of complications incurred from a heart attack earlier that month.

Pastor Peggi, as she preferred to be called, was not the type of person one would take for a minister. She was about five feet tall with straw colored hair cut above her shoulders. She once said that when she went to heaven she would like to become taller and thinner. Her street clothes usually consisted of pant suits and she almost always carried her trademark can of diet coke wherever she went. She was down to earth and deeply loved her dog Tashi. Her sister, Florence Garza, probably captured Peggi's essence best when she referred to her at the memorial service as "a wild bird."

Peggi loved to tell stories of her earlier years in Mexico and the western characters she met during her pastorates in Nevada, Utah and Wyoming. Antrim, though, seemed to be her favorite pastorate. She made friends easily here; the New England environment and people seemed to have won her heart.

However, her demeanor and physical stature didn't really give strangers a hint of who she was and the environment in which she had been raised. She was born Margarita Ana Boyce in Mexico City, Mexico, on April 6, 1947, and her parents were Presbyterian missionaries. Her father, Dr. James R. Boyce, was a medical doctor and often flew his plane to visit those in outlying reaches in need of medical help. Peggi spent most of her formative years in the United States. She was extremely proud that she had become the first woman pastor ordained in her Presbytery. This was during a time when women pastors were not received with open arms in the church. Her achievement as a woman pastor extended to the Presbytery of Northern New England where she recently became its moderator.

Pastor Peggi was a people lover. Seldom did she meet someone new than she would be regaling them with stories of past travels, her younger life in Mexico, or those of her parishio-

ners who reflected the rugged nature of the old west. She was a national and international current events and sporting events junkie, she loved to talk about the news of the day, and she was an avid fan of college football, pro-sporting events, and even bull riding. Last year she was asked to bless the Indy 500 cars and drivers at the New Hampshire Motor Speedway in Loudon.

However, her love of sports didn't end there. During past Antrim Home and Harvest Festivals, Peggi loved to bless the skateboarders before their races down Summer Street. She often talked about the racers she met there. They came to Antrim from all over the United States and Canada, and they were just as enamored with her. In fact, one of the best pictures of Peggi was taken by Louise Bilodeau showing Peggi surrounded by skate boarders with Peggi's arms raised high and a grin on her face.

Perhaps the best tributes to Peggi appeared in the wake of her death on the Antrim Can/Am Facebook site by the racers who met her and fell in love with her. Brian Beihl, part of the Antrim Can/Am Committee for the Home & Harvest Festival, invited the skate boarders to submit comments about Peggi and the races so they could be put into a small booklet with photos which Brian gave to Peggi's family at the memorial service. Here are just a few of the many comments:

"I'm sorry to hear about Pastor Peggi's passing. My thoughts are with her family and friends. She remains in my heart as a great, charismatic woman open to all people she met. She will be missed."

—Oliver Lehman, Berlin, Germany

"I always appreciated her warmth, interest and gracious spirit in opening the church to us and joining us strangers (and some of us are quite strange!) each year. As awkward as it was, I do feel blessed, to be blessed by someone who would "Bless these boards and those who wiggle". Thank You Pastor Peggi. You will be missed."

—Dan Parrish.

"I looked forward to Pastor Peggi's blessing every year - truly was a highlight. She took the time to come up with a new blessing every year and they were always entertaining - like her. And she always took the time to chat with the skat-

 continued on page 18

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South Village Antrim Schoolhouse grades 1-12. The Waverley Lodge members relocated to the “Goodell Block” in a building that has recently burned down where the Trends of Fashion parking lot is located. They met there for seventeen years occupying the 2<sup>nd</sup> and eventually 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of this building, keeping to the upper floors “preventing prying eyes” from viewing the then very secret meetings.

Popularity of belonging to a fraternal order grew and membership of the Odd Fellows swelled to over one hundred-eighty by the 1890’s. Similar organizations in Antrim were founded and flourished in the 1890’s including Vesper Lodge of the Free and Accepted Masons, Knights of Honor Contocook Lodge, Ephraim Weston post 87 of the G.A.R., and the Antrim Grange Patrons of Husbandry. The Grange is the only other organization that remains to this day providing a strong presence of fellowship.

As popularity of Waverley Lodge increased it was thought best to purchase a building and they did so. The “Odd Fellows Block” was purchased for a debt of \$250. The first floor remained a mercantile exchange while the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> stories of the building were ‘finished into a very neat and tasty hall, with dining, paraphernalia, and ante-rooms, which will compare favorably with any in the State. And was also a good investment!’ Eventually this investment was realized when Edmunds Hardware purchased the building from Waverley Lodge in the 1980’s and tragically lost the third floor “grand hall” shortly thereafter to a fire.

Waverley Lodge flourished and prospered in Antrim from the late 1800’s continuing well through the 1900’s. The Brethren felt obligated to meet as often as twice a week during the early years, thus allowing its members to advance rapidly through the various symbolic chairs, positions, and levels within the Lodge. Banquets and suppers were often held, “semiformal affairs, menus often included ‘Oyster Suppers’, ‘Wild game’ or ‘Pot Luck’ fare.”

The meaning of Odd Fellowship is found in oath and creed, much of it Biblically based. In 1816 when the order was founded, four great cornerstones were laid upon which to build: to visit the sick, relieve the distressed, bury the dead, and educate the orphan. These, along with the Creed are related through the three-link symbol of Friendship, Love, and Truth “as the ultimate destiny of all mankind.” Many a town benefited from the cohesion brought by the IOOF lodges as the country developed.

The Conferring of Degrees was often attended by visiting lodge brothers. As participants in the pageantry, they would wear elaborate costumes, act out various parts, and recite lines and passages in the degrees and lessons with lasting impression upon all candidates. Some of us still remember the poignant performances of George Edwards, Bob Caughey, and Dick Jennison. (Perhaps some of the brothers refined their acting and stage presence honing their stage skills for the Antrim Players.)

These foundations helped Waverley Lodge No.59 to establish purpose and exemplify the requirements of the order. Brothers in Odd Fellowship in Waverley Lodge would look after members and families in times of distress and sickness, provide visitation and compensation for home health care, and ultimately arrange for older members to retire to the Odd Fellows home in Concord. Widow and youth funds were established to aid the local community in times of need, and members of Waverley Lodge would make themselves available when one of its members died. Some of the sendoffs were grand affairs, large funeral processions with many brothers in attendance, accompanied by the somber tunes of local brass bands during the long march to the local cemeteries. Some members and families thought so much of the order that symbols of Odd Fellowship can be found carved on gravestone in the form of the three links of Odd Fellowship in Antrim’s cemeteries.

The more recent chapter finds Waverley Lodge relocating from the “Odd Fellows Block” on Main Street in the mid 1980’s to the American Legion Post Building on West Street until 2010. Although the numbers have greatly dwindled since the more glorious days of the past, the Odd Fellow traditions continue. Currently we meet in the Church of Christ basement on North Main Street on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays of most months.

#### **THE ODD FELLOW’S – REBEKAH’S IN ANTRIM**

By 1861 the Order, recognizing the need for a woman’s touch and her helpfulness in carrying out the principles of Odd Fellowship, brought into being the Rebekah degree. With the success of Waverley Lodge it was determined to institute a Rebekah Lodge. In 1886 in Antrim the charter was taken and the “Hand in Hand” Rebekah Lodge was instituted. This allowed the honorary degree of Odd Fellowship to be bestowed on wives, daughters, and the brothers of the lodge. The International Order of Odd Fellowship is recognized as being one of the first orders to recognize the need to include women in the order. Rebekah Lodge, Hand in Hand No. 29, held open its doors for many years with strong membership and participation. In Antrim “Hand in Hand” held meetings from 1886 to 1992, eventually consolidating and joining forces with another Rebekah Lodge thus closing and relinquishing the “Hand in Hand” name forever. With the departure of the Rebekah Lodge, women are now active participants in Waverley Lodge No. 59. ✻



# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## MARCH

- 2 **Bear Read-In** with storyteller Connie Vandervort • Tuttle Library • 10:00 AM
- 4 **Celtic Evensong** • First Presbyterian Church • 5:30 PM
- 13 **TOWN ELECTIONS** • Antrim Town Hall • 8:00 AM–7:00 PM
- 13 **Read to Mozart!** • Tuttle Library • 6:30 PM
- 15 **Community Supper** • First Presbyterian Church • 5:30 PM
- 15 **TOWN MEETING** • Antrim Town Gym • 7:00 PM
- 24 **Turkey Dinner** • Baptist Church • 5–6:30 PM
- 31 **Singing Games** early childhood training • The Grapevine • 9 AM–12:30 PM

## APRIL

- 1 **Celtic Evensong** • First Presbyterian Church • 5:30 PM
- 7 **Annual Spring Egg Hunt** • Memorial Park 10–11:00 AM
- 10 **Teens and Technology** discussion for parents • The Grapevine • 6:30 PM
- 10 **Read to Mozart!** • Tuttle Library • 6:30 PM
- 14 **Safe Sitter** baby-sitting training @ Avenue A Teen Ctr • The Grapevine • 9 AM–4:00 PM
- 17 **Family hike McCabe Forest** meet @ The Grapevine • 9:30 PM
- 19 **Community Supper** • First Presbyterian Church • 5:30 PM
- 21 **Glen Miller Orchestra** • Rec Dept bus trip • leave Town Hall @ 6:00 PM

## MAY

- 5 **Spring Walk for Families** meet @ The Grapevine • 9:30 AM
- 5 **Daffodil Day Storytime & Open House** • Tuttle Library • 10 AM–3:30 PM
- 5 **Bike Safety Rodeo** • Rec Dept & Police Dept @ Town Gym • 2–3:30 PM
- 6 **Celtic Evensong** • First Presbyterian Church • 5:30 PM
- 8 **Read to Mozart!** • Tuttle Library • 6:30 PM
- 16 **Community Awards Night** • Antrim Grange
- 17 **Community Supper** • First Presbyterian Church • 5:30 PM

## CHURCH NEWS

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

588-2209

**SUNDAY WORSHIP • 10:30 AM**

Sunday School • 10:30 AM every Sunday  
Communion is served on the 1st Sunday of every month

**AA Meetings**, Sundays and Mondays at 7:30 PM

- March 4** • Celtic Evensong • 5:30 PM
- March 15** • Community Supper • 5:30 PM
- April 1** • Celtic Evensong • 5:30 PM
- April 19** • Community Supper • 5:30 PM
- May 6** • Celtic Evensong • 5:30 PM
- May 17** • Community Supper • 5:30 PM

### BAPTIST CHURCH

588-6614

PASTOR CHARLES V. BOUCHER

**SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM**

- March 7** • Brown Bag Lenten Luncheon • 12 NOON
- March 14** • Brown Bag Lenten Luncheon • 12 NOON
- March 21** • Brown Bag Lenten Luncheon • 12 NOON
- March 24** • Turkey Dinner • 5–6:30 PM (adults \$8)
- March 28** • Brown Bag Lenten Luncheon • 12 NOON
- April 5** • Maundy Thursday Service • 6:30 PM
- April 8** • Easter Sunrise Service • 6:30 AM  
lawn of Presbyterian Church
- April 8** • Easter Service • 10:30 AM

### CHURCH OF CHRIST

**SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY • 10:00 AM**

**SUNDAY SERVICE • 11:00 AM**

**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY • 7:00 PM**

## “TABS FOR TED”

Ted Brown

Are NOT for Ted! They are donated to the Shriners to be turned into revenue to benefit the Shriners Hospital. The funds support equipment for children and family burn victims, and they help with transportation to and from the hospital. These services are provided free of charge to burn victims and their families

This tab program in Antrim and Bennington has been on going for over five years. It started when I became aware of what the Shriners do with these tabs. At a cookout at my neighbors Briar Bethal, a toddler went around collecting the tabs from everyone who had a soda can begging, “Tabs for Ted,” thus coining the name of the charitable drive.

We collect almost a pickup full of tabs each year, and we present them to the Shriners at Antrim’s “Home and Harvest Festival” after the parade. A special THANKYOU to the good folks at the transfer station who have contributed a majority of the tabs. They collect them from the aluminum cans during slow periods of operation, as time allows.

To help support this charity you can save the tabs and deposit them at our transfer station, Edmunds Hardware, Rick & Diane’s Restaurant, the Laconia Savings Bank, and T Bird. If you have a quantity of them you can call me at 588-2886 and I would be glad to pick them up.

Thank you Antrim!

✂

Recreation Dept continued from page 11

**Saturday April 21:** Community Bus trip to the Dana Center to hear the sentimental sounds of the **Glenn Miller Orchestra**. Bus leaves Antrim Town Hall at 6:00 pm, returns around 11:30 pm. Cost is \$20 per person; this includes transportation and concert tickets. The renowned Glenn Miller Orchestra has the unique jazz sound that establishes it, by far, as one of the most popular and sought after big bands in the world today. Under the musical direction of trombonist Larry O’Brien since the mid 1950s, the orchestra keeps the legend of America’s favorite ‘Big Band Era’ orchestra leader alive. Come with us on this trip, and take a romantic step back in time.

**Days of Summer Camp:** Complete brochures and Registrations for our popular summer day camp are ready! Some weeks of our summer camp fill up quickly, so register early! This year, full day summer camp will be held Monday-Friday June 25 through August 17<sup>th</sup>. Full day programming is available by combining recreation programs and soccer camp for the week of July 26. There is full day Basketball Camp the week of August 2<sup>nd</sup>. The final week of Days of Summer Camp is August 17<sup>th</sup>. The early bird registration deadline is Friday May 25<sup>th</sup>.

More programs are often scheduled after this article goes to print! Please stay up to date with Recreation Programs by checking the calendar on the town’s website: [www.antrimnh.org](http://www.antrimnh.org), our Facebook page, bulletin boards at the Antrim Town Hall and the Antrim Town Gym, or give us a call at 588-3121.

✂

Pastor Peggi continued from page 15

ers, whether it was at the race or at breakfast. I was privileged to sign her shawl, and she wore it proudly every year. It was an honor to know her, and we will all miss her terribly.”

—Ron Barbagallo.

“Rest in peace Pastor Peggi - she will be missed by all the Antrim Racers!(Having been to every race in Antrim, I’ll miss the annual chats at the pizza dinner or breakfast and most of all the mid-GS blessing. My heartfelt condolences go out to her family, friends, parishioners and the Town of Antrim. Her kindness was appreciated by this racer as well.”

—Terry Whalen.

“Sad...probably one of the most open-minded persons. Rip.”

—Kélian Duplain, Quebec, Canada

“I am honored to have met Pastor Peggi. A great loss for Antrim. A real jewel. I’ll never forget what she said to me when I first met her, and told her my father was an Episcopal Minister—she placed a hand on my shoulder and said, “You seem to have turned out OK anyway”... then winked at me. Thank you, Joe, for introducing us to Antrim and all the wonderful people there.”

—Rick Floyd

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## CHUCK

Lyman Gilmore

When you walk into Chuck's office the first thing you notice is the incomprehensible drone of an auctioneer coming from Chuck's computer. It is the auto auction in Londonderry, and when I asked Chuck if he can understand what the auctioneer is saying, he answers modestly, "It is my business," meaning that as a professional of course he understands.

"Chuck" is Charles Setaro, owner of Chuck's Auto in Antrim on Route 202 north almost at the Hillsborough line. Chuck has been fixing cars for forty years, the past eleven in Antrim, and before that ten in Greenfield where he lives with his wife Anne who comes in to do the books and is an aide at the Wilton-Lyndeborough School. Working in the shop with Chuck are his twenty-five year old son A.J. and John Lavoie who drives Chuck's Super Stock Chevrolet Monte Carlo every summer weekend at the Monadnock Speedway in Winchester where they won the championship in 2011. One of the car's major sponsors is Edmunds Hardware in Antrim.

That auctioneer drone is important to Chuck because about half his business is selling used cars that he buys at auction and then renovates and sells. He can and sometimes does buy a vehicle online mostly for parts, but he prefers to go to the auctions in Londonderry and Salem twice a week so he can inspect beforehand what he intends to buy. The other half of his business is all sorts of car repair: engine, front end, brakes, body-work. When Chuck isn't working, he and his wife enjoy camping and flea markets. (See his ad elsewhere in this issue.)

✂

## CHRISTMAS JARS

*The author of this story gave us her name but asked that it not be included so the recipient of her Christmas Jar next year will not know who donated it.*

— Editor

On Christmas night I returned to my home after spending the afternoon with my family to find a jar of money and a book on my back step, *Christmas Jars* by Jason F. Wright. There was a note attached that simply said "For Operation Santa." I asked several people about the jar over the next few days, but nobody claimed to know anything about it. I took the jar to the bank and cashed it in for \$84.54. I decided I would read the book to see what it all meant. The book is a best selling novel about a family that started collecting change all year in a Mason Jar, and at Christmas they would leave a jar on the steps of people who might have lost their jobs or who were just down on their luck.

I want to thank whoever left this jar for it changed my sense of goodwill during the holiday season. My family has decided to keep this tradition alive and have started our own Christmas Jar, for yes there is still good in this crazy mixed up world and we all need to look out for each other.

✂

## FESTIVAL OF TREES

Missy Taylor

The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Festival of Trees was held this past December at the James A. Tuttle Library and once again met with an overwhelming and enthusiastic response from the community. Sponsored by the Antrim Historical Society and the Friends of the Library, the Festival included several new facets this year. Wreaths were added to the display and Kristy Boulé created a beautiful quilt that we raffled off to help defray the Festival's expenses. Two new events were also added: an 'Evening of Lights Gala' opened the Festival and an Open House was held on New Year's Day. As the Festival grows, it is attracting more and more interest throughout our region and the state, both because of the dazzling display our participants create and also because of the unique nature of our Festival. Unlike many other Festivals of Trees, there is no fee to either participate in the Festival or to view the display. Our Committee continues to be dedicated to creating a community event for Antrim that everyone can enjoy and we thank all who make the Festival such a smashing success.

We especially thank our financial sponsors: Allen Chiropractic, PLLC; Antrim Wind Energy, LLC; and Great Brook Veterinary Clinic; and our silent auction sponsors: Rita Allison, Anytime Apparel, Artek, Michelle Boule, Jeanine Clarke-Edmunds, Cutter Flooring, Dahle North America, Linda Dessaint, Edmunds Hardware, thelobsternet.com, Moonlight Meadery, New England Gift Company, Mary Payne, Rick & Diane's, and Trends of Fashion. We also thank the sponsors of the Festival, the Friends of Tuttle Library and the Antrim Historical Society; the staff of Tuttle Library; the Library Trustees; the many volunteers and bakers and most of all, the exhibitors who created the spectacular display of trees and wreaths.

The Festival Committee has already started meeting and planning the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Festival of Trees, which starts the first weekend of December, 2012. We hope to see you there!

The 2011 Festival of Trees Committee: Kristy Boulé, Gerry McGlory, Thelma Nichols, Missy Taylor, and Connie Vandervort.

✂



## ANTRIM CHURCH OF CHRIST

Alan Fahrner, Minister

### COMMITMENT AND ENCOURAGEMENT

In the first men's meeting of 2012, our chair, Rick Davis, suggested we set goals for the new year...and then proposed "Commitment and Encouragement" as an option. It was pretty clear that everyone sitting there that morning felt the pair were well-suited for our humble little congregation. And it wasn't the sugar in the Dunkin' Donuts Rick brought speaking...

On the surface, it might appear that the Antrim Church of Christ doesn't lack commitment, but the reality is that it is attended by people no less susceptible to pressures of the busy schedules than anyone else reading this. Yes, we've got quite a bit of commitment (our doors are always open when they should be), but we are renewing our dedication to our members, our town, and the Lord we worship each week. Please keep an eye open for more news about that in these pages, including a renewed energy behind Diane's Miracle.

As for encouragement—2011 was a difficult year for many in the Antrim region, and our members weren't spared the troubles, whether financial or health-related. We are a pretty close-knit group, but that same busyness mentioned above means that it is too easy to lose track of the day-to-day trials coworkers, friends, and family are experiencing. We are going to stop leaving keeping in touch to chance—we all personally know how much a card, a call, or a visit can brighten us up, and we plan on doing the same for others, in-and-out of our church.

How about you? Did you have any resolutions for 2012? Would it make sense to add "commitment and encouragement" to your list?

How about you? Is there anything the Antrim Church of Christ can, as part of its commitment to Antrim, do to help improve your life? To encourage you to hang in there no matter how tough things might be?

That is, what can you do for others—and what can we do for you?

Ultimately we are a body of believers who have the quint-essential reason to be encouraged:

"For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore encourage one another with these words."

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18, ESV

Until then, whether or not you join us for Bible study on Wednesday or Bible study and service on Sunday, we hope you will give us an opportunity to show our commitment to you and, perhaps, to encourage you.

One final note. This will be my last contribution to the *Limrik*. As much as my family and I had wanted to make Antrim our final, permanent home, losing my job in January of 2011 finally led to me having to accept a position out of the area (in Pleasanton, California). Michelle, Mikey, Augie, and I will miss everyone tremendously. We know God will bless us no matter where we are, but it's hard to see those blessings being greater than the ones He has given us through all of you. Thank you.

✞

## ANTRIM GRANGE

Beth Merrill

In January, Antrim Grange members were in Hartford, CT for the Northeast Leaders' Conference and Area Meetings around the state. A speaker on "Living Wills" was sponsored by the Grange in the first of our winter series of educational public programs.

February was a busy month for us! Beth Merrill attended the Masters' Conference in Atlanta, GA. Several Antrim members assisted with the State Grange booth at the Farm and Forest Expo in Manchester, which received first place in the educational category. That honor earns us a free booth space at next year's expo. Several members attended and participated in activities at the Winter Rally in Webster. We sponsored a public program on rescue dogs at the Town Hall, and at press time, plans were being made to host our second annual Meet The Candidates Night.

Over the winter we presented dictionaries to third grade students in Antrim, Bennington, Dublin, Frankestown, Hancock, and Greenfield Elementary schools in our tenth year of collaboration with the Dictionary Project.

Just for fun, members are looking forward to the State Grange Bowling Tournament in March. The public program for March 21<sup>st</sup> was not yet confirmed at press time. Be on alert for specifics on this agricultural/gardening related topic in local publications and on our Facebook page.

April is National Grange Month and if Old Man Winter is kind to us, we will be able to move back into the Grange Hall in time for the planned festivities.

2012 will see a continuation of folk concerts at the Grange Hall. The acoustic trio, Crow's Feet, will start the season off in May. Keep an eye out for signs and postings in mid-spring.

The annual Community Awards Night will be on May 16<sup>th</sup>, at which time our community citizen award and scholarship recipient is announced, in addition to presenting several other awards. Scholarship applications can be picked up at Conval High School guidance office, Tuttle Library, or downloaded from <http://antrim.nhgrange.org> and are due back to Arthur Merrill, Grange Secretary, by April 10<sup>th</sup>.

Plans are under way for the Tenth Annual Art Exhibit to be held June 14-17 at the Grange Hall.

✞

## HEART-WARMING OPPORTUNITIES WITH CONTOOCCOOK VALLEY TRANSPORTATION COMPANY

Ruth Benedict

Contoocook Valley Transportation Company (CVTC) is looking for caring individuals who have a few hours to spare now and then to help those who can't drive themselves to medical and social service appointments, as well as to the pharmacy, grocery store, and food bank. Volunteering is easy because drivers get to choose the trips that work with their schedule, coordinating with CVTC on the phone or by using the super-easy online scheduling software.

CVTC volunteers provided 2500 trips to residents of the Eastern Monadnock region in 2011, which is up from 1500 trips in 2010. As more people lose the ability to drive, including seniors and those with disabilities, this organization is hoping more members of the community will step in to help them get where they need to go. There is currently a shortage of volunteer drivers in the thirteen towns of CVTC (Antrim, Bennington, Hancock, Greenfield, Frankestown, Temple, Sharon, Peterborough, Jaffrey, Rindge, New Ipswich, Greenville, and Dublin).

CVTC riders have said this about their drivers:

"Thank you so much! You guys are saving my life right now."

"We appreciate the service very much; without it, we could no longer live here. You have made 2011 a good year for us."

"[...] is a joy to spend time with and a delight; he's a wonderful driver. God bless you and yours."

"I want to thank you and all your drivers who have so generously provided rides for my mother. It truly goes beyond being 'just a ride'. Your drivers truly care [for] and respect my mom in her time of need."

"I really liked the driver I had on my last trip. She was so friendly and helpful. I hope I will have her again!"

It turns out that many CVTC drivers have formed caring friendships with their riders, and they look forward to the next time they can drive those same individuals again. It makes their hearts glad to know that they are making such a difference.

Perhaps there are Antrim residents who are ready to find out how good it feels to help someone who can't drive or doesn't have a vehicle. To learn more about this opportunity, please contact Marsha Heinzmann at 1-877-428-2882, ext. 5 or send an email to [marsha@cvtc-nh.org](mailto:marsha@cvtc-nh.org). She will be happy to explain how CVTC works and answer any questions you might have. 

## CELTIC EVENSONG AND PASTOR PEGGI

Sharon Dowling- Evensong Coordinator

I have been writing promotional articles about the Celtic Evensong worship service at the First Presbyterian Church in Antrim for over a year now. We started this ministry-worship service-community experience in October of 2010 as a direct result of a trip I took to Fredricksburg, VA, to visit a dear friend and to hug babies. That might appear to be a strange result, but I was grieving over the recent loss of my mother, and our little family had not yet started the newest generation (still has not, but one nephew seems to be on the fast track and all of a sudden there is hope!) and holding new life in my arms seemed to be the medicine I needed in order to start to heal.

Well, my goddaughter's 5 week-old baby was indeed exactly what the doctor ordered, and my friend and I were able to enjoy some sightseeing and shopping with lighter hearts. St. George's Episcopal Church happened to be open for tours with lovely Tiffany windows to view, and in we went. All of a sudden, there were brochures and photos and bulletins from the Celtic Evensong service they have every Sunday Evening. I was transfixed and transported, and the docents were very excited about the service and the response they were getting. I returned to Antrim with visions of candles and a general framework to imitate and expand upon, and a driving sense of urgency that maybe this was the medicine some folks "tired of religion but in need of the Spirit" could use!

Once I began to work up a sample service, new sources of information appeared, and my personal education into the growing body of work on Celtic Christianity expanded. I found books and articles from many religious and spiritual writers from around the world that seemed to validate the need that this ecumenical service offered the community. I felt like I was on a rollercoaster and the brakes were broken! Wow!! Now to propose this exciting idea to Pastor Peg and Melissa Lawless, my compatriots on the Music and Worship committee. If they thought this was a crazy idea that would not fly in our church, I knew I would have to take the idea elsewhere because I felt it was important to make it happen! No fear, however, they both were as excited as I, and Pastor Peg just lit up like a Christmas tree.

 continued on page 29

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### **FREE Movies @ Antrim Town Hall**

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## BRAVE MOMMA

Sheila Nichols

One of our chicken breeds is *Red Sex-link*. *Sex-links* are a cross-breed of chickens whose color at hatching is differentiated by sex, thus making chick sexing an easier process. This is a plus when you want to insure you have only hens. Red sex-links are a cross between a Rhode Island Red or New Hampshire rooster and a White Rock, Silver Laced Wyandotte, Rhode Island White or Delaware hen.

Hens generally lay an egg a day in their prime. We collect the eggs daily from the nesting boxes. If there isn't a rooster around to fertilize the eggs they won't hatch. Instinct tells a hen to set on her eggs, rooster or not. When a hen sets it is called "being broody." Some hens set, and some lay the egg and move on, which sounds like some people I have encountered.

We had one special *Red Sex-link* hen. She had more motherly love and protective instinct pound for pound, feather for feather, than anyone. Anthropomorphism? Call it what you will, she had it and I'll take to task anyone that says otherwise. "Brave Momma," as she would come to be called, was one in a million.

We had no roosters, or so we thought. When this hen became broody we assumed her efforts would be futile. We had a few Bantam chickens in our flock which are considerably smaller than Red Sex-links. So when one of the bantam chicks showed rooster like behavior our novice chicken farmer selves paid no attention. You can guess where this is going.

Daily there was new egg under Brave Momma. I convinced Bill to let her set. After all, I know a lot more about female hormones than he does. Those are urges that are best not messed with or commented upon. We marked five of her eggs with X's, and each day we left her setting on the marked eggs and removed the newer ones.

I stroked her daily, praised her perseverance and gently reminded her that we had no rooster. She, in turn, fluffed herself up, gathered the eggs beneath her breast, and clucked contentedly.

One day as I collected eggs I turned when something caught my eye. Poking out from Brave Momma's wing was a tiny little head! Four others would follow. Seems that Bantam rooster was ambitious and successful.

We put the new family into a smaller coop within the chicken yard so that they could grow a bit before contending with the rest of the flock. Pecking order being what it is, we didn't want anything to happen to these wee babes.

Sadly, this little family would not have a carefree life. Within a few days one of the chicks fell into the duck pond and drowned.

During the day we would take Brave Momma and her babies up to the lawn and she would patiently show them how to scratch. Chickens scratch the ground as they hunt for bugs and worms. The chicks would watch Brave Momma and learn. They enjoyed their outings.

Our Jack Russell/Rat Terrier mix, Lincoln, as in the President Lincoln, Bill's hero, was very inquisitive and followed them around. I guess it was nice to see other animals his size.

One evening we heard the chicks peeping in a distressed way. We found them but couldn't find Brave Momma. After a tense search Bill found her on the woodpile, injured. The pug dog next door had gotten hold of her, and while she bravely defended her babies, she was bleeding, suffering from a compound fracture of her wing, and was in shock. Several breast feathers were missing, she was lethargic, and we didn't have much hope for her survival.

Bill called on his EMT skills and poured peroxide over her wounds. We got a dog carrier, filled it with wood shavings, and put her inside. Her babies continued calling for her so we put them in too. They quieted right down after they joined their Momma.

Fully expecting to find her dead the next morning we were teary eyed with happiness to see that she had rallied during the night and was up drinking water. Lincoln appointed himself guardian of this family. If anybody came near them he would give chase and then return to his post.

Brave Momma's wounds healed though she never fully regained movement of that one wing. She soon returned to my gardens to continue teaching her babies the fine art of scratching. As an aside, Brave Momma and her babies earned the right to be the only chickens allowed in my gardens.

One night during a torrential thunderstorm we heard a chicken scream; there is no other way to describe it. Instantly,

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Bill jumped out of bed and ran outside. I heard him yelling angrily. My first thought was that the pugs were at it again. Turns out it wasn't the pugs he had been yelling at but a bear that had come through the 4 foot high wire fence and tipped over Brave Momma's coop. When I caught up to Bill he was drenched pulling three rescued chicks from his jacket pockets and handing them to me. He ran into the house and returned shortly with his rifle. Off he went and I heard several gun shots. Bill is an animal lover and was shooting over the head of the bear to frighten it off. Unimpressed, the bear finished her meal before leaving.

Later, Bill told me that when he had gotten down there he saw the bear reach into Brave Momma's coop, pull her out, and start eating her. He couldn't believe that his shouting didn't frighten the bear away. I couldn't believe that he had in fact been standing in the pouring rain in his pajamas yelling at a BEAR! Brave Momma's screams helped her babies escape.

I put her three soaked chicks under a heat lamp. They were calling for their mom. I was crying. Brave Momma had once again saved her babies. This time she paid with her life. Bill and I went back out to see if we could find the 4<sup>th</sup> chick. In the rain and darkness, and with adrenaline pumping, we couldn't find it. Sad, tired, and soaked we went back to check on the three orphans and then went back to bed.

Seeing the evidence of the bear's attack the next morning was unbelievable. The fence was knocked down and bent badly. The little coop was upended and splintered. Lincoln was very concerned when he saw all this and smelled the bear scent. Then we heard it, the tiny voice of a baby chick. Slowly, we turned the destroyed coop over and there, wet and frightened was Brave Momma's fourth baby. We tried to catch her but the night's events had really scared her. She ran all over everywhere. Bill and I tried to corral her but she would have none of that.

Then something amazing happened. Lincoln had figured out what we were doing and started after the baby. At first we were worried that he was going to hurt her. But, no, he caught up to her, held her between his front legs, lay down and rested his chin on her head. She stopped struggling and cuddled into Lincoln. We could only guess that she recognized her family's protector. Lincoln held her until we could pick her up and put her in with her siblings.

Animals are amazing. This was one of those bittersweet times when in the natural course of events, one animal instinctively eats another, one protects another, and one gives her life for her babies.

It has been some time since Brave Momma's death, but each time I think about how she looked after her babies and how she suffered I still get a lump in my throat. ☪

## IS EVERYTHING OKAY AT GREAT BROOK?

Terri Sittig, Literacy Coordinator

What's going on at G.B.S. this year? On Friday before the holiday break, staff members waved goodbye in an unusual fashion. As the school buses slowly rolled out of the parking lot, students watched their teachers give them a "thumbs up" while wearing brown paper bags over their heads and chanting "Okay for Now"!

Curious students must have begun piecing together some strange happenings in school that week. What was with all the posters in the hall that read, "Okay for Now" and the picture of the smiling man with the caption "Do you know this man?" that had been posted everywhere in the school? From students' perspectives, it might have seemed like things were other than "okay for now".

Well, it was a ploy. When it comes to motivating students to read more, some teachers will go to great lengths. The book, *OKAY FOR NOW* by Gary D. Schmidt, was what the ruckus was about. The story: a skinny kid named Doug Swieteck who has a great fondness for the New York Yankees, for Audubon's book of birds, and for a girl named Lil Spicer. The plan: to pique students' curiosity and enthusiasm for a school-wide read.

On January 3<sup>rd</sup>, teachers began each day reading *OKAY FOR NOW* whose cover depicts Doug Swieteck with a bag over his head. Following the daily read, teachers have been encouraging their students to question, discuss, and analyze what is going on in Doug's world. The all-school read has been a positive way to emphasize the importance of reading as well as the value gained by examining a book and its characters in depth.

Oh, and by the way, the unknown man plastered on the walls of G.B.S. is Joe Pepitone, former Yankees player, who is mentioned numerous times in the book. ☪



## AVENUE A TEEN CENTER

Dave Kirkpatrick

With Spring fast approaching, we're getting ready to dig out some of the projects that get put away when the snow starts to fall. Longboard Construction will be offered again in April, when we will cut, sand, and paint outdoors once it warms up a bit and the road dust has washed away. We have a handful of raffle goodies stored away, including a custom longboard of course, ready to be rolled out in the fair weather. Ave A is also a supporter of the Antrim Yacht Club, and will volunteer some labor to get the sailboats out and ready for some Summer sailing, lessons, and racing on Gregg Lake!

Also coming right up, Avenue A and the Antrim Recreation Department will be co-sponsoring a beginners Slalom Skateboard Racing Program in 2012. We've acquired six new, complete, professional racing decks and a full set of helmets and pads to get new racers started early in the season. The beginner training starts out "low and slow" to build skills and confidence, and to introduce basic racing concepts. Program times and dates are still to be determined. Initial workshops are limited to six participants, so contact Ave A or Antrim Recreation Department sooner rather than later if you'd like to try it out.

We've had a busy Winter, with the return of Open Mic Night on Fridays a big attraction! Typical attendance has been in the 20's and seems is growing. Open Mic happens from 7-

9 every Friday, and is an all ages / community event. It is still attended mainly by teens, but open to all (under 12 with adult). I write this on the heels of the busiest OM ever, with no break in the action and into overtime, and this is one of those cases where more is always better! This is a FUN way to "chip in" a little, so come down and join us Friday night if you have the urge to strum, speak, or sing.

Our *Lights, Cameras, Action!* Video crew has been meeting regularly and, while fabulous scripted works are still in progress, much of our attention lately has been on our musical friends. Live "in studio" shoots have been happening during Open Mic and on the occasional Saturday afternoon. We are also very excited that LCA has been asked to help produce some special-effects video clips for the GBS School Play coming up in April. I like to remind the kids (and parents too) that, while video production is a fine hobby, it can also be real-world job training when taken seriously. A number of paid camera-operator gigs will be posted over the summer, and like most jobs, experience and technical proficiency are essential. The dedicated LCA kids will ultimately have real skills, experience, and a demo reel to add to their resumes. This is a fabulous opportunity, especially considering that the price is simply commitment.

Speaking of jobs for kids, here's an exciting news update: Avenue A will be offering Safe Sitter™ babysitter training for kids ages 11 and up. The first class is set for Saturday, April 14 from 9AM-4 pm. The cost of the course is \$50 with scholarships available. The training is limited to 8 students, and those interested should contact The Grapevine 588-2620 to sign up.

With Town Meeting just around the corner, it would seem prudent to mention not only the value that Avenue A adds to this community, but what keeps us ticking as well. Avenue A is a project of The Grapevine, funded primarily through grants and donations. The Gilbert Verney Foundation has supported Avenue A from the beginning, and continued that support this year with an \$8,500 grant. The sincere commitment and effort by the teens and adults who envisioned and realized this project, together with community support, is the reason Avenue A is still alive and well while Peterborough's teen center was forced to close due to state budget cuts. We receive roughly 20% of our

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funding directly from the towns of Antrim and Bennington, with Antrim being both the primary user and the largest contributor.

A Warrant Article has been presented to the voters each year to request \$6,000 in support from The Town of Antrim, which breaks down to a cost of about \$24 per teen per year. I see the benefits to our teens every day, and I can tell you it's well worth it. Others see the benefits, as well, for instance Sgt. Cavanaugh who offered this: "Many of the teens I interact with in the community are regularly making use of the teen center, and are taking the benefits of the positive influence along with them when they leave, including respect for others." We truly appreciate the support we get from the community in the form of volunteer hours and financial contributions, and of course we hope to have your "yes" vote at Town Meeting!

As a final note, a reminder that community service is an important aspect of our teen center culture, and we hope you will dine with us when Avenue A hosts the Community Supper on Town Meeting night, March 15, at 5:30 at the First Presbyterian Church.

For more information about Avenue A Teen Center or our programs, contact Dave Kirkpatrick at 603-588-3334 or [teencenter@tds.net](mailto:teencenter@tds.net)



## MY BIG SCREEN TV

Schatze Moore

There sure has been a lot of talk over the last few weeks about the Super Bowl. In the office where I work some folks have a friendly two-dollar bet on whether it will be the Giants or the New England Patriots that win. All my co-workers are planning to watch the big game.

On my big screen TV you will never watch the Super Bowl of 2012, or any other year. You will never see a PGA tournament or tennis championship. Your time will never be spent watching a talk show, the Kardashian family, the soaps, or whatever 70+ channels will allow. You won't ever have to wonder about the location of the remote channel changer because it doesn't come with one.

On my big screen TV (98"x35") you only get two channel choices and you can watch them simultaneously if you wish. I get the weather channel and the nature channel, and because there is no on/off switch, it is just a matter of tuning in. There is a limitation, though, but not one that seriously bothers me. My TV viewing time is limited to the hours between dawn and dusk. My winter hours are even shorter, mostly confined to the weekend.

I confess that I am an avid viewer particularly of the nature channel. I get so drawn into the action and drama of what I am watching I can hardly pull away to get my chores done or get out the door and off to work.

I like to keep a pair of good binoculars nearby for those occasions when I need some enhancement to my viewing. I don't want to miss any critical details that I might want to share later with a loved one or a friend.

My wide screen television is definitely rated excellent for family viewing. If the viewer is less than four feet in height it is helpful to set them on a stool so as to give them a fuller opportunity to see what is happening. If the viewer prefers to sit in comfort (say for instance, on the couch) while viewing, it is OK, but they can't expect to get the complete panorama. I find I really prefer to do my watching while in a vertical pose lightly balanced on my two feet. I can get so much more involved this way. I guess you could call my television interactive. I certainly find myself engaged.

But, then, night falls and my television shuts down, sort of. As long as the inside lights are on you can be entertained by reflections on the screen if you should feel so inclined. My dog gets very excited when she sees hers.

I know there is some statistic about the number of hours the average American family spends watching their televisions. I guess there is also a recommendation for limiting those hours. Large screen TV viewing can be a very strong habit, whether your TV is like mine or the kind that gets plugged in to an outlet. Now, though, I think it is time I tuned out and get out while I still have the light of day.



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## THESE ANTRIM HILLS – A VIEW FROM AFAR

Peter Moore

Sometimes the best and certainly the easiest way to experience the hills and mountains in and around Antrim is from afar. We have a favorite viewing place to which an early Sunday evening paddle across Gregg Lake in August and September takes us. Then the lake is quiet and practically ours alone. From the waters edge we see the gently undulating horizon's sweep of Tuttle Mountain. We await the sun's set, just to the south, over Willard Mountain's left shoulder, before we paddle back

I am unhappy to think that this pastoral vista may be sacrificed for the construction of massive wind turbine towers from which the power generated will likely be exported to Massachusetts. I am sad to imagine the terrain devastation that might be wrought on this fragile, narrow, and geologically unique talus ridge as a result of this project. I feel sorry for the residents—down-range around Gregg Lake and in North Branch—who will be subject to ceaseless noise. It is sorrowful to think that this bucolic view, this peace and quiet on a Sunday evening, and this high place, may be lost for decades.

What other of our hills and mountains might be subject to such industrial development? What if the height of land in your back yard, or a cherished mountain-view is leased by some wind energy prospector hoping to cash in on the renewable energy rush? What will you think, and what control will

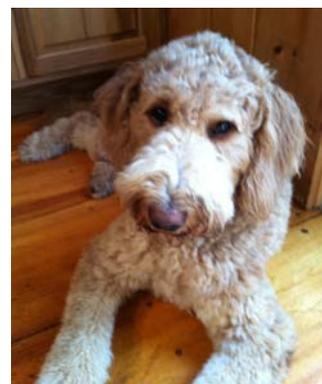
you have, when there is no protective zoning ordinance to help sustain your personal health, safety, and welfare, not to mention the value of your property?

I am hopeful that reason and local control will prevail, that a majority of residents will recognize the importance of our rural character and our quality-of-life that is a result. By supporting the Large-Scale Wind Energy ordinance unanimously proposed by the Planning Board on the 2012 March ballot, each of us can have a say on the future of these Antrim hills, and our view of them from afar. ☞

## COME AND READ TO MOZART!

Mozart, the Reading Companion Dog, is coming to the Tuttle Library on the second Tuesday evening of each month at 6:30 pm—March 13, April 10, and May 8. Mozart has been specially trained to sit quietly and listen to children read to him.

If your child loves big gentle dogs and would find it relaxing to read to Mozart in a non-judgmental environment, come join us. Stop by to see Mozart and the children in action and sign up your child for a 15 minute reading slot. ☞



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## ANTRIM VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

*"I shouldn't take it personally, but I do."*

Todd Bryer

Today is December 15 and I am sitting down to write an article about a fire call we had on December 14 that somehow struck a nerve. I know I shouldn't have taken it personally, but I did. We were called out at 7:41am for a chimney fire just outside of downtown. I had let the dog out and back in but hadn't eaten breakfast yet. I put on some warmer clothes and headed out the door. When I arrived at the fire station, another firefighter had already arrived and was opening up the bay door. We promptly put on our gear and rolled Engine 2 onto the apron, as a third firefighter arrived at the station, he jumped in and we responded at 7:49 am. Meanwhile we received an update from the scene that flames were coming from the top of the chimney. We had a little trouble getting to the scene as a pick-up truck had stopped about 1½ car lengths beyond the stop sign on the corner we needed to take which made navigating difficult. We arrived on the scene at 7:51 am. The truck was set-up to pump, two of us put on airpicks, we laddered the roof and with a weight and chain started working the chimney fire from the roof top. As we were setting up Engine 2, Engine 1 and Tanker 1 arrived at the scene at 7:57 am. When the officer on the tanker got out of the truck, a neighbor—who had probably called in the chimney fire—commented that if they had known how long it

would take us to get there they would have called Hillsboro. This was not the first time someone made a comment about what took us so long, as it seems like forever waiting for a fire truck or an ambulance to arrive. When I heard about this incident on the roof it bothered me and I wasn't sure why.

We had finished working the chimney fire and picked up and cleared the scene by 8:56 am. Back at the station we had to clean up our gear and wash the airpicks, masks, and the trucks so to get ready for the next call. Following the call I went home; it was about 10:00 am. I had breakfast, took a shower (I had creosote ash down my shirt almost to my waist), put on clean clothes, did a quick project at the house, and took an early lunch. After lunch I headed off to work, because I still had a full day ahead of me. I finished a roof section and cleaned up shingles, off-loading at the transfer station in the dark. After picking up the job site, I went home and unloaded my truck, finishing at 7:00 pm.

The majority of the day I thought about the neighbor's comment, knowing the whole time I shouldn't take it personally, but I did. I wasn't sure why it bothered me, I would not have even heard about it on the roof if it hadn't bothered the officer on the tanker. I don't believe the comment reflects the sentiment of most Antrim people. I am not sure what the neighbor's expectations were. We had a full crew on the first truck and on the scene in full turn-out gear within 10 minutes of being notified. All in all we ended up with eight men on scene with everyone working their tails off. We'll get paid for two hours work, so for \$20 we left our jobs, our families, and our plans for that morning without a second thought.

I guess what bothered me about the comment was that if it discourages one firefighter or makes him wonder why he responds and leaves his job or family, then the next call, instead of eight men maybe only six or seven show up. The numbers would get smaller and the work would get harder. I shouldn't take it personally, but I do. ☪

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AT RICK & DIANE'S

Rick & Diane's has acquired the rights to become an authorized distributor of Broaster Chicken. Broaster Chicken is a special recipe chicken company that will enable Rick & Diane's to carry various products from fried chicken to rotisserie whole chickens. We are really excited to invest in a company and its products that will bring something new to our business and our great customers!

Because of Broaster's unique frying system the chicken will even taste better and be even healthier for our customers. For example french fries will have 50% less saturated fat than fries in a regular fryer. Broaster's marinades and breadings makes all their products melt in your mouth.

Rick & Diane's will be bringing many new items for our customers that will enhance our already great pizzeria! ☪

## TUTTLE LIBRARY NEWS

Melissa Lawless

**NOTICE:** The library will close at 6:00 pm for Town Meeting on Thursday March 15.

### HOLIDAYS- LIBRARY IS CLOSED

Monday May 28<sup>th</sup> –Memorial Day

### PROGRAMS

**Friday March 2** • 10 am • Bear Read-In with Storyteller Connie Vandervort

**Tuesday March 13** • 6:30 pm • Read to Mozart “the Reading Companion Dog”

**Tuesday April 10** • 6:30 pm • Read to Mozart “the Reading Companion Dog”

**Saturday May 5** • 10:30am • “Daffodil Day” Storytime & Open House (10:00 am–3:30 pm)

**Tuesday May 8** • 6:30 pm • Read to Mozart “the Reading Companion Dog”

### BEAR READ-IN

Join us for a storytime based around bears during the week of school vacation. On Friday, March 2 at 10:00 am come with your favorite bear (if you have one) and share some *together time* at the library. If you have any stories about bears visiting in your yard that you might like to share with us, it could be fun to swap stories from real life as well. As always, we try to be flexible about various age levels and attention spans with those in attendance.

### GREEN CORNER

As we all struggle with our rising fuel and energy costs and with Earth Day rapidly approaching on April 22, we would like to encourage you to stop by and browse through the books in our Green Corner. Encouraged by Antrim’s Energy Committee, we have been collecting books about alternative energy and global warming which we keep in one handy section of the library. This might also be a good time to check-out our Kill-a-Watt Meters which will help you determine your energy usage of various appliances. Also, if anyone has any recent editions of books about energy alternatives, we would be happy to receive any donations.

### IF YOU LIKED THE BOOK, YOU’LL LOVE THE MOVIE (AND VICE VERSA)

Hollywood seems to have discovered (or rediscovered) that there are some great stories being told in books, especially in the area of books for teenagers. The rights to many Young Adult books have been purchased by film studios—a large number of them are books in series. In the last few years, the volume of films based on books has skyrocketed, partly because of the smashing success of Harry Potter and the Twilight books and movies. Some new movies which were based on books and are still in theaters include: *War Horse*; *Hugo*; *The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo* (the English language version); *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close*; *One For the Money*; and *Breaking Dawn*

part 1). Recent movies now available on DVD include *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* part; *Water for Elephants*; *The Help*; *Beastly*; *Soul Surfer*; *Snowflower and the Secret Fan*; *The Descendants*; and *Mr. Popper’s Penguins*. Be on the lookout for the following movies: *Odd Thomas*; *The Hobbit*, part 1; *Breaking Dawn*, part 2; *Life of Pi*; *Shiver*; *Uglies*; *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*; *The Sea of Monsters: Percy Jackson and the Olympians*; and *Bag of Bones*. Some Young Adult series we can look forward to in theaters over the next few years include *The Hunger Games*; *The Mortal Instruments*; *the Wolves of Mercy Falls*; *Incarceron*; *The forest of Hands and Hands and Teeth*; *Wicked Lovely*; *The House of Night*; more of the *Percy Jackson* series and of *The Chronicles of Narnia*.

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### AUTHOR FOCUS

American-born Irish Science-Fiction / Fantasy writer Anne McCaffrey, who was born on April 1, 1926, in Cambridge, MA, spent much of her life trying to live up to the reputation of being born on April Fool’s Day. This award-winning writer immigrated with her two youngest children to County Wicklow, Ireland, in 1970 when she learned of Ireland’s tax exempt status for resident artists. Best known for her *Dragonriders of Pern* series, McCaffrey lived in a home which she designed herself and dubbed, “Dragonhold-Underhill” because her dragons paid for the residence which she built into the side of a hill.

A cum laude graduate of Radcliffe College, McCaffrey was a master storyteller who placed great emphasis on character development and the creation of fantasy worlds which her characters lived in based on knowledge from the world of science. Her carefully crafted books which blended science fiction with a tone of fantasy and adventure were always meticulously researched with the help of astronomer Steven Beard and reproductive biologist Jack Cohen as scientific consultants. Knowing that her genetically-engineered dragons would hold a universal appeal, Anne did not target her books to any particular age group. Dragon lovers of all ages find pleasure in reading her books.

Having written over 65 novels, Anne McCaffrey had become a master at transporting readers to her vivid worlds. When you put down one of her books, you may be startled to find yourself back in your own surroundings. McCaffrey was a winner of a Hugo Award (1968), a Nebula Award (1969), Skylard Award (1976), the Gandalf Award (1979) and the Margaret A. Edwards Lifetime Achievement Award (1999). Fans of Anne McCaffrey were sad to learn of her death following a stroke at the age of 85 on November 21, 2011.

QR

One Session meeting later, we had official approval and we were on our way. Pastor Peg became an outspoken advocate and impassioned supporter of our Celtic Evensong. She told everyone she could about it, church people and non-church, from Maine to Kentucky. She loved not being the leader—she felt it was a service that “fed” her—and she would describe visions of spiraling lights that appeared to her as the Taize chant went on and the Cantor’s voice floated above the congregation. She loved the candlelight and she loved the sound of cello, harp, and flute playing together. She loved the readings and she loved the periods of silence. She loved the thought that this was a service that could create peace and offer solace to those in need of a communal worship experience. All the reasons you might want to try it out for yourself.

Celtic Evensong is held every first Sunday of every month from October thru June, at the First Presbyterian Church on Main St. in Antrim, at 5:30 pm.

Questions? Call: 588-2209.



## THE GRAPEVINE

Kristen Vance

I was invited to give a presentation at a Sustainable Communities forum at Antioch University New England in March and I’m really looking forward to it, mostly because the audience will be students who hope they can make the world a better place. It was our Community Wood Bank and the People’s Service Exchange that got the professor’s attention, but as I described how The Grapevine came to be and how community members are actively engaged in developing initiatives as well as supporting them, she was interested in the organization itself—as a catalyst for change, for sustainable community health and wellbeing.

The Grapevine is working on another sort of sustainability at the moment, one that involves funding. And, as things tend to happen at The Grapevine, people have been approaching me over the past several months to let me know they have some ideas and they think they can help. They were aware that State budget cuts had eliminated our one remaining \$25,000 grant, and they wanted to help sustain The Grapevine.

Yesterday I met with some of these people—six mothers and their babies and toddlers—and began planning our annual Spring Walk fundraiser. The ideas and offers of help flew around the room as the children crawled on the floor and dumped boxes of blocks, moms instinctively picking up kids and blocks while they talked. It was the most productive and uplifting meeting I’ve been to in a long time. This is what The Grapevine is all about. If you’d like to help these moms raise \$10,000 for The Grapevine, call us for a pledge form or download it at [www.AntrimNH.org](http://www.AntrimNH.org), and walk with us on May 5.

**The People’s Service Exchange** is a neighbor-helping-neighbor program based on the Time Dollar system, and is recognized as a great way to build relationships and strengthen communities *while you save money*. The PSE is a group of area residents—currently there are over 190 members—who exchange services without exchanging money. A new member from Antrim is offering homemaking, caretaking and dog walking. A new member from Bennington gives homebrewing and winemaking instruction. A new member from Hancock restores furniture, frames and small sculptural objects. A new member

*—continued on page 30*

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The PSE is now open to Hillsborough residents, and our first Hillsboro member is a certified nutritionist who can show you how to make quick, healthy and affordable meals. We have members who would like to receive the following services: drum, ballroom and marengue dance lessons, and automobile and metal chimney repair. Joining is fast and easy—call or email Nancy for a membership packet today and get connected! 588-2620 [peoplesserviceexchange@tds.net](mailto:peoplesserviceexchange@tds.net). And now you can Find Us on Facebook. The PSE operates thanks in part to the generous support of tax-deductible contributions of members.

**PARENTING PROGRAMS & WORKSHOPS**

**Guiding Good Choices Spring Series Begins March 22.**

We have no doubt that the parents who participated in this nationally-recognized workshop in November will be our best advertisement for the next 5-session series beginning March 22 at 6 pm at Antrim Elementary School. The program, facilitated by Carol Lunan M.Ed, teaches parents of children ages 9-14 years the effective family management and communication skills needed to help reduce their children’s risk for using alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. The series, including dinner and childcare, is free to families thanks to generous sponsorship by Laconia Savings Bank. We are pleased to offer Guiding Good Choices in partnership with

Great Brook and Antrim Elementary Schools and their respective PTOs, who provide the space and A/V equipment, and coordinate childcare. Call 588-2620 now to register, it will fill up.

**The Parenting Circuit.** Parenting Educators Carol Lunan and Wendy Hill will “ride the circuit” to Hancock, Bennington, and Francestown to answer your most pressing parenting questions. The Grapevine, in partnership with the town libraries, will collect your questions in the weeks leading up to each event, and will respond to these and other posed by parents at the event. The schedule is as follows, come to one or all: Hancock Town Library: Tuesday, April 17 from 12:30-2 pm. Bennington VFW Hall: Tuesday, May 29 from 6:30-9 pm. Francestown Library: Saturday, May 12 from 9-10:30 am

We’re anticipating great questions, insightful and helpful answers, a lively discussion, and a healthy dose of fun.

**Teens and Technology**, a discussion for parents of teens on Tuesday, April 10 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Share your ideas and hear what other parents have to say about raising teens in this age of fast-paced technology and social networking. Free.

**Parents of Children with Special Needs**—This parent group, started by Grapevine Board Member and parent Siobhan Martin, meets **Wednesdays from 10 to 11:00 am** for discussion on how parents can best support each other in advocating for their children. Topics might include advocating for your child in the school system, the medical world and in the extended family, and helping children to make the most of their unique strengths and abilities. Ideas for discussion topics and guest speakers are encouraged. This is a parent-led and parent-facilitated group. For more information call Beth at 588-2620. Free.

**CHILDREN’S AND YOUTH PROGRAMS**

**Experimenting with Art** on Monday, March 5, 12 and 19, from 1:30-2:30 pm. Children ages 3-5 participate with their parents in a fun, messy, expressive, and creative environment. We will explore three elements of art: color, line, and shape. Emphasis is on the exploration of art materials. This class is excellent for children who don’t mind being messy, and love to explore. Please dress your child appropriately. The fee is \$15 for the three sessions; financial assistance available. Childcare for younger siblings can be available for those who register in advance, for a cost of \$2 per session. To register contact Sadie at 831-4478 or [scahoon@northernvista.com](mailto:scahoon@northernvista.com).

*—continued on next page*



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**Our Backyard Summer Adventures** – Summer is just around the corner, and The Grapevine staff is planning now—call for more information.

- Summer Parent-Child Groups for toddlers to age 5 years
- Backyard Adventures for 4 to 6 year olds for 2 one week sessions
- Backyard Science Camp for 7 to 9 year olds
- Your Backyard & Beyond for 7 to 9 year olds

**It's not too early to think about Preschool 2012-13!** Call now to schedule a visit to The Learning Vine, Wednesdays and Fridays 9 to noon.

### SPECIAL PROGRAMS – SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

**Singing Games: The “Language” of the Young Child**, an early childhood training for teachers, child care providers and parents on **Saturday, March 31 from 9 am to 12:30 pm**. Young children experience the world through the sensory processes of movement and rhythm. Songs—singing and clapping games—teach pattern and sequence and allow the expression of innate rhythm. Children discover the order of a singing game and can anticipate what is next. They learn self-control, to move with awareness, wait their turn, or cheer for a friend. Math skills are honed while moving to the rhythm of a song.

Singing games prepare young children for future, more academic skills through embracing the nature of the young child. As teachers, we are often reluctant to let our singing voices be heard. We believe we cannot sing or fear we will be off tune, and thus we miss this critical opportunity. Join parenting educators Wendy Hill and Carol Lunan M.Ed to hear and experience their combined collections of children's songs, singing games and clapping games. This workshop meets credential requirements for Teaching & Learning Core Knowledge Areas. \$20 per person includes a take home CD. Call for more information and to register.

**Free Tax Prep at The Grapevine.** Free professional tax preparation and financial management consultation are available at The Grapevine Family & Community Resource Center in Antrim. Larry Schwartz, Hancock resident and certified tax preparer, will meet with individuals by appointment Mondays from 3 to 6 pm. According to Schwartz, people often do not realize that they are eligible for credits and benefits intended for middle-income individuals and families. All returns will be filed electronically. Call The Grapevine at 588-2620 for an appointment.

### BABES IN BACKPACKS—TODDLERS IN TOW

Organized in collaboration with Susie Faber of the Harris Center for Conservation Education, this seasonal hike invites families to get outdoors. On Tuesday, April 17 from 9:30 to 11:30 we'll meet at The Grapevine for a morning ramble in McCabe Forest. Search for signs of spring, the first wildflowers, early frogs and returning birds. Need a baby backpack? We have extras! Grown-ups with children of all ages welcome. Fee is \$5 per child, adults are free, call to sign up.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Eat Out for Teens at Rick & Diane's on Friday, March 16!** This is what we hope will be the first in a series of local restaurant fundraisers, inspired by Rick & Diane's unsolicited offer a few years back to donate a portion of one day's gross receipts to The Grapevine. This year, the Davis family is donating 20% of the day's take, with the contribution covering the cost of running the Safe Sitter course and supporting Avenue A Teen Center. This is a great opportunity to support your favorite pizzeria and your local family and community resource center!

### SPRING WALK FOR FAMILIES SATURDAY MAY 5

Tune up your strollers, lace up your walking shoes and get your pledges for The Grapevine's 8<sup>th</sup> Annual *Spring Walk for Families* on Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 10 am in Antrim. Call 588-2620 to get your pledge sheet or for more information. Meet in The Grapevine parking lot between 9:30-10 to register.

**Coming soon.... 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Black Fly Community Art Show**, Saturday, June 2 from 10:00-12:00 featuring multimedia art by local children and youth, community and family art activities, and more. If you have art you would like to show please call Beth 588-2620.

### SERVICES AVAILABLE AT THE GRAPEVINE...

- On site application for food stamps, Healthy Kids insurance and State other assistance
- Community Wood Bank
- Child and family counseling through Monadnock Family Services
- Information and assisted referral for resources to meet basic needs such as housing, home heating, food and prescriptions
- Help finding meaningful employment for people with disabilities through A.C.C.E.S.S.

### ABOUT THE GRAPEVINE

The Grapevine is a nonprofit organization serving residents in Antrim, Frankestown, Bennington, Hancock and nearby towns. Other programs and resources include the Before and After School Clubs, Avenue A Teen Center, Senior Exercise, and Better Beginnings parent-child programs. Tax deductible contributions are gratefully accepted at PO Box 637, Antrim, or drop by the center at 4 Aiken Street (behind the library). ☪

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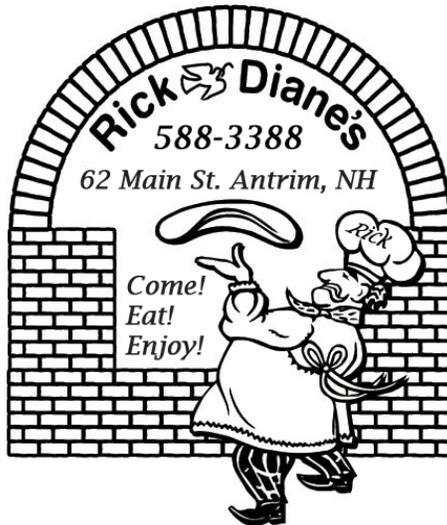
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