

The Limrik

A Quarterly Journal

For, by and about the people of Antrim.

Vol. 23 #2
March 2014



Chief Lester in his corner office.

NEW ANTRIM POLICE STATION

Lyman Gilmore

It didn't take me long to understand what Chief Scott Lester meant by the "flow" of the new Antrim Police Station. Late last month he graciously gave me an individual tour of our new building, explaining as we walked how he had carefully planned for efficient and safe flow that allows activities in one department to coexist with business in another, from room to room, without mutual interference.

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VOTE "YES" ON THE WIND ORDINANCE

Ben Pratt

I am in favor of a wind-turbine farm in the town of Antrim. I understand that some folks object to wind turbines for a variety of reasons, but to me these objections are insignificant when compared to the terrible damage we are now causing with our reliance on the combustion of fossil fuels. I think it is unfortunate that it has not been possible for the Antrim Planning Board and Antrim Wind to craft an ordinance that would be acceptable to both. However, considering the overwhelming importance of making progress on renewable energy, some aspects of the opposition to the ordinance seem to me a bit like a discussion about the proper positioning of the deck chairs on the Titanic.

I am convinced that we are now in great danger of causing serious and possibly irreversible changes in our climate around the world. The carbon dioxide content of our atmosphere is

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HAWTHORNE COLLEGE- MAHARISHI PROPERTY SOLD

Lyman Gilmore

Antrim's 450-acre North Branch property belonging at one time to Nathaniel Hawthorne College and later to the Maharishi Global Development Fund was sold last November to the Overseas United Education Foundation whose principle officer, Ms. Liu Hong, Ph.D., currently lives in Beijing, China. The property sold for \$1,420,000, down from the asking price of \$2,900,00. According to her representative Alex Wang in the Boston area who coordi-

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MARCH 11
TOWN ELECTIONS
Town Hall • 8:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.

MARCH 13
TOWN MEETING
Town Gym • 7:00 p.m.

VOTE "NO" ON THE WIND ORDINANCE

Bob Edwards

My intention in this article is to argue that for the good of the town we should vote against the proposed wind ordinance. It is not about the subject of renewable energy and is not a discussion of the merits of natural gas, solar energy, water power, wind or any other potential or developing renewable energy source, its merits or its criticisms. But rather it's about the lack of substance of the Petitioned Warrant Article submitted by 42 local residents who believe that they, in concert with Antrim Wind Energy, LLC, who has a clear financial beneficial interest in a positive outcome, knew best how to craft an amendment to Antrim's zoning ordinance that would provide for the development of Wind Farms in the Rural Conservation District and two Highway Business Districts.

The 42 people didn't feel that it was necessary to consider the opinions and wisdom of other taxpayers or the Planning

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

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

ADVERTISING FEES

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Quarter Page	\$45 per issue
Business Card size	\$30 per issue
	or \$100 for 4 issues

Advertising copy is due by February 10, May 10, August 10, and November 10. Ad content is subject to approval by the Managing Editor and the Advertising Manager. For specs on ad size and file format, contact Ral Burgess at 588-6650 or ralb@tds.net.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Limrik accepts letters to the editor of maximum length of 250 words. Publication of the letter is subject to approval of the content. Mail letters to Editor, Limrik, PO Box 84, Antrim, NH 03440 or by e-mail to Lyman Gilmore at: lyman-gil@comcast.net.

CREDITS

Illustration by Virginia Dickinson

NEWS DEADLINE

All news copy is due by February 10, May 10, August 10, and November 10. Please e-mail your article to Lyman Gilmore at: lyman-gil@comcast.net.

nated the transaction, and the realtor who handled the sale, Tom Duffy of Berkshire Hathaway Home Services Verani Realty of Londonderry, NH, Dr. Hong and her company plan to create an undergraduate college for US and international students. The Limrik has been unable to verify this information with Dr. Hong, although Mr. Wang anticipates their meeting with Limrik staff in the near future.

Here is the listing description of the property:

Nestled on a hillside, known locally as Hawthorne Mountain, this property boasts over 400 acres. At the northern end of the property at the higher elevation is Bagley Pond. The property owns 680 feet on this pristine, private pond, whose ownership is shared with only one other owner. The southern border is composed of North Branch River and River Road which flows west to east and terminates in Franklin Pierce Lake. The campus infrastructure of roads, driveways, water and sewer systems is designed to serve 1500 people and has direct access from Rt 9 & 31. There are currently 8 buildings on the campus which have been remodeled with new energy efficient FHW heating systems. The property is currently used as a Conference Center with classroom/meeting rooms, dining facilities and overnight accommodations. The central road thru the campus is North Branch Rd and is maintained by the town. Acreage, age of buildings & road frontage is approximate. ❁

2013 Festival of Trees



Gretchen Lyons was presented with the first Gilded Tree Award for her outstanding tree, "Enchanted Time."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Conflicted is my new favorite word and it certainly describes how I feel about writing this letter to the *Limrik*. Because what it means is that I am stepping out of my comfort zone. Long before my husband began writing "These Antrim Hills" essays for the *Limrik*, he and I had been exploring the many hills and mountains that surround us here in Antrim. We didn't have to travel far from home to hike and climb, and we didn't have to use much fossil fuel to get there either. We've had a lot of fun over the many years we've been roaming around our home place.

I consider myself to be an environmentalist; I believe in conservation, reservation, and the preservation of our lands and natural resources. I am interested in greener forms of energy and renewable energies. But, from the very beginning, I just could not get on board with the Eolian/Antrim Wind program, and quite honestly I was appalled at the idea of blasting the top off of Tuttle Mountain in order to create a base for the construction of the proposed 500 foot wind towers.

Another issue that has bothered me ever since Antrim Wind came to town has been the comparison of the wind tower site in Lempster to the heights of Tuttle. The Lempster Mountain site sits on a far broader rise of land, Tuttle is a talus ridge. I think of it like this: I have a great big wooden salad bowl, turned upside down you have Lempster's wind farm at the apex, turn it right side up and the narrow rim of the bowl is Tuttle Ridge. And, the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee (SEC) seemed to agree in its initial decision against this ridge site for Antrim Wind, and in upholding their ruling by denying AWE's appeal, unanimously.

Antrim Wind came back just before Christmas 2013 and introduced to the town and voters a petition warrant article written by them to change allowed-use in the rural conservation district and highway business district, and to create their own standards for the use of Tuttle and the development of their wind farm. I am very concerned that AWE, a non-resident developer, would attempt to remove the right and power from the hands of the people of Antrim, and our self-determination.

I am really shaking my head at this effrontery. I am wondering what is guiding their thinking. I am wondering if they are counting on residents and voters being senseless or duped, or perhaps a little of both. I am not stupid and am most certainly not desperate to do any business with Antrim Wind or to allow them to circumvent what has already been put in place by a thoughtful, homegrown planning process over decades, developed to protect the Rural Conservation Zone and wise-use within the highway business district, by and for the people of Antrim.

With my NO vote I intend to ask Eolian/Antrim Wind very politely, but very definitely, to go home and never return.

Respectfully,
Schatze Moore



SELECTBOARD

Gordon Webber, Chairman

We are a few months into 2014 and the Town is in good shape. We encourage all eligible voters to cast their ballots on Tuesday, March 11, at the Town Hall and look forward to your attendance and participation at Town Meeting on Thursday March 13, at the Town Gym.

There are two issues before the voters that, in particular, deserve your support. The first is Amendment #5 on the ballot for Tuesday March 11. The Board of Selectmen supports this amendment. It asks "*Are you in favor of the Adoption of Amendment No. 5 as submitted by petition for the Town of Antrim Zoning Ordinance which would provide for the development of Wind Farms in the Rural Conservation District and the Highway Business District and establish specific development standards, including standards on proper construction, public health and safety, noise, environment and visual impacts, and require operational agreements with the Town?*" Even though there is no proposed project before the Town at this point, it seems prudent to address this now. In the past the Planning Board proposed two separate amendments to the Zoning Ordinances in regard to commercial Wind in Antrim (first in a special election in 2011 and again at the March 2013 ballot vote). Both of these amendments failed at the ballot, considered by many to have been overly restrictive. Since then, the Planning Board has not worked on any new amendments to address future wind projects. A group of Antrim citizens submitted a petition to pick up where the Planning Board left off. This amendment is 11 pages of regulation, standards, restrictions, and decommissioning rules, and it requires a municipal operation agreement. We believe it is a well crafted document that will benefit the Town of Antrim.

The second is Article 17 that will be voted on at Town Meeting on Thursday March 13. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article. It asks if the Town "*will vote to authorize the Selectmen to accept a Conservation Easement in accordance with RSA 447: 45-47 from Charles S. Bean III containing approximately 100 acres, upon such terms and conditions as the Selectmen may determine to be in the best interest of the Town.*" In June of 2013 the Board of Selectmen held two Public Hearings in regard to this Easement. At the second hearing there was a citizens petition submitted which required this decision to be brought to the voters at Town Meeting. This easement would be enacted if a wind farm were constructed on the ridge, and after it was decommissioned the land would then be protected from development forever. This easement comes in to play only if a wind farm is proposed and constructed on the Tuttle Hill Ridge. If you are in support of commercial wind in Antrim as a renewable energy source and as potential revenue for the Town, please consider supporting Amendment #5 and Article 17. Both of these are available on the Town website and at the Town Hall office. Please vote on Tuesday March 11 and attend Town Meeting on March 13.



CANDIDATES FOR SELECTBOARD

JEANNE PLOURDE-CAHOON FOR SELECTBOARD

My name is Jeanne Plourde-Cahoon, I have lived in Antrim for about 15 years. I went from being a classroom mom, to one of the PTO presidents in Antrim Elementary School. From there, I moved on to working in AES classrooms on a daily basis. Many of you know me either from the school or from my working at the "Before and



After School Club." I may have had the pleasure of meeting you at one of my sons' baseball games. If you don't know me from these places, then perhaps I have enjoyed watching your children in my home.

My husband and I moved here after the birth of our first child because of the great sense of community in Antrim. Working together has always been something that is important to me. I believe everyone has something to give that can help make most situations just a little better.

Now that my kids are getting older and are more hands-on in building their own future, I feel this is a good time for me to have a direct experience in helping to maintain the town we live in and love. I would like to be more involved and know that I am doing all I can to keep the sense of togetherness that is prevalent in Antrim.

I want to make sure that in the future our town still emanates this sense of togetherness that drew us to Antrim. I would like to be in a position to hear issues community members feel have an important impact on the town. I understand that every choice the Selectboard makes will affect each individual differently in our diverse community, and I believe we can all contribute important points of view when reviewing the topics at hand.

BOB HOLMES FOR SELECTBOARD

My name is Bob Holmes and I am looking for your support as I run for the open select board position. I moved to Antrim in 1988 when I was awarded the Postmaster position in Antrim. I worked for the Postal Service for over 30 years and am now retired. My two sons grew up and attended schools here in Antrim, and my wife Denise has served on the School Board and currently is one of the mail carriers working out of the Antrim Post Office. I have served several terms on the Parks and Recreation Commission, have been a member of the Master Plan Committee in 2006, and after that served on the Capital Improvements Committee. Just recently I was one of the leaders for the Back Roads and Cellular Holes program. I also was on the staff of the first *Limricks*. During this entire period I have been active in the youth sports

programs either as a coach or official.

For the past several years the issue that has been front and center has been the wind farm. Regardless of the decision that was rendered by the state, I was relieved and hoped that a divided town could now come together. I am a proponent for renewable energy and reducing carbon emissions. However I do not support the current warrant article on zoning. As a selectman I would like to form a committee to come up with guidelines for renewable energy in the town of Antrim.

Then using these guidelines and the Master Plan construct a zoning article that will protect each citizen of the town both current and future, while recognizing the need for renewable energy. The future generations await our actions. If anyone would like to contact me about this or any other issue, I have an email exclusively for that purpose, bobh4antrim@gmail.com. I look forward to the opportunity to serve you.



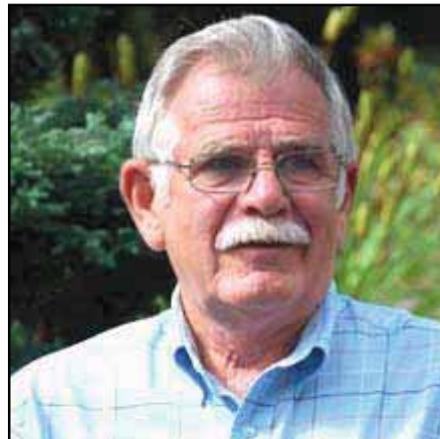
JOHN ROBERTSON FOR SELECTMAN

I'm seeking re-election as Antrim Selectman. After three years I have learned the many facets of town government and state regulation. I've attended and participated in many of the educational seminars and training sessions provided by the Local Government Center and others, including the six hours required for Planning Board members.

My experiences include Antrim Trustee of Trust Funds for 5 years and Antrim Budget committee chairman. This has prepared me to be an able and effective member of the Antrim Select Board.

I'm a member of the Antrim-Bennington Lions Club and a Past President.

Before moving back to New Hampshire from New York



State, I was elected to a NY School Board. The School District there was very similar to Con-val.

As selectman I will act according to the majority wishes of Antrim residents and do my very best for the town of Antrim.

GOODBY MISSY—WE SHALL MISS YOU!

Connie Vandervort, Marcia Ullman, Steve Ullman, Lyman Gilmore

Missy Taylor and her Husband Bill Prokop have moved to Beaufort, South Carolina, and while we are pleased that their long-desired hopes have been fulfilled at last, we shall miss her sorely. Missy has been so vitally important to Antrim's life—including but not limited to the Festival of Trees, the Senior Center, the Historical Society, and the Limrik—that I have asked people who worked closely with her to comment on their experience with her.
—The Editor

In 2010 three women sat down to talk about the Friends of the Library and the Antrim Historical Society doing a program together. It was a lovely afternoon and before long Missy Taylor, Thelma Nichols and I, Connie Vandervort, had decided to see if anyone might be interested in decorating a few holiday trees to decorate the library for the holiday season. Little did we know how much the community would embrace the idea. From that point on Missy was off and running. She worked tirelessly for months each year to see that every detail was covered. She never said no to a new idea or challenge and always found a way to make things happen. Even during set up, a grueling non-stop two to three weeks of decorating, wiring, repairing, printing, running errands, baking, etc., etc., etc... Missy was always the first one there and the last to leave. She has been the heart and soul of the festival and she will be more than just missed by all of the members of the committee and everyone involved with the Festival of the Trees.

—Connie Vandervort, *Festival of Trees*

Missy has been a friend of the Antrim Area Senior Center (AASC) since its inception in January 2009. She was among the group of concerned citizens who saw the need for the AASC and who, under the leadership of Thelma and Wayne Nichols, worked diligently to bring it into existence. From the very beginning, Missy has been a dedicated baker for the AASC. As everyone knows, Missy is extremely skilled at producing delectable delights! Every Tuesday and Thursday, those attending AASC were treated to Missy's delicious creations. All of us at AASC will miss her dearly and that is not just because of her baked goods (although we will miss them, of course!) but because we are losing a dear friend. We will miss her sunshine personality and her unwavering support of the AASC and its activities. With gratitude in our hearts for her many years of devoted service to AASC, we wish her joy and contentment in her new home.

—Marcia Ullman, *Senior Center*

Missy Taylor has played an instrumental role in the Antrim Historical Society (AHS) for many years. The hallmarks of her service to the AHS have been 1. her unflinching good humor; 2. her enthusiasm and creativity (who could get more excited about the annual AHS Apple Crisp Sale or the Festival of Trees?); 3. her reluctance to attract public acknowledgment of her contributions—she is a member of that hush-hush brigade of Antrim benefactors who stealthily serve the community without seeking any credit; 4. her astonishing

ability to extract answers to even obscure questions from her magical cell phone; and 5. her legal training—on those few occasions when we thought we needed informal, unbilled advice from a retired attorney, Missy has stepped up. When Missy moves to South Carolina, she will leave an Antrim Historical Society most grateful to her but also still hopeful that she will reconsider and move back before our next Apple Crisp Sale. The Granny Smiths will be waiting for you, Missy.

—Steve Ullman, *Antrim Historical Society*

As a member of the *Limrik* staff, Missy not only completed with her usual quiet efficiency mundane tasks such as handling the out-of-town subscriptions and collating *Limrik* copies for the Post Office, not only writing in clear, expressive prose articles about the happenings of the Antrim Historical Society and the Festival of Trees, she was also an *Limrik*'s intellectual beacon with her extraordinarily cogent and acute book reviews of difficult and gnarly literary works. One need only turn to old *Limriks* online at the library and read again—or if you are lucky for the first time—her sterling reviews of *The Nine: Inside the Secret World of the Supreme Court* by Jeffrey Toobin (June 2008), *The Big Short: Inside the Doomsday Machine* by Michael Lewis (June 2010), *Washington: A Life* by Ron Chernow (March 2011), and *The Swerve: How the World Became Modern* by Stephen Greenblatt. While you are at it, you might also share my delight in two of her most lively essays, “Ruth Bader Ginsburg: An Appreciation” (March 2009) and “What I Did On My Summer Vacation” about her participation in the Berkshire Choral Festival (September 2008). We shall miss her compelling writing, her beautiful smile, and her fiercely humble ebullience.

—Lyman Gilmore, *Limrik Editor*



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For example, the first evening the building was open the officer on day-duty just ending his shift was talking in the “booking area” to a person he had arrested, when a distraught woman entered the lobby describing a domestic dispute. The night-officer, just beginning his shift, welcomed her to the “soft interview” room just off the lobby and listened to her complaint and wrote a report. That the two interviews happened simultaneously with neither interfering with the other, and with each maintaining confidential privacy, should not seem unusual but would have been impossible in the old police area in the Town Hall.

The new building is a picture of efficiency, with the training, storage, and administration areas in the south half, and reception, booking room, holding cells, prosecutor’s office, and “Sallyport” in the north half.



The “Sallyport” is an interesting concept. When an officer in a patrol car makes an arrest he places the perpetrator in the right hand back seat where there are no inside door handles. After he drives into the Sallyport its door slides down and locks. He gets out of the car and goes to a small safe mounted on the wall at eye level and locks his weapons inside where the prisoner cannot get them. Then he opens the car door and escorts his prisoner into the completely secure booking area, the doors of which are double locked by key and by numeric touch pad with secret passwords. Adjacent to the booking

area are two holding cells which, Chief Lester explained, are not “jail” cells—no one is ever kept over night—but secure rooms with sink and toilet in which arrested persons can be held safely until the Sheriff’s Department can pick them up and transport them to the Valley Street Jail in Manchester.

Another clever idea that is a vast improvement over the Town Hall are the “Evidence” rooms where drugs, confiscated weapons, and stolen property are stored safely and securely. When a perp is being booked, the officer carries any evidence into “Evidence Processing” where it is cataloged and tagged and then inserted into a metal wall chamber with a locking door, similar to a post office box. In the evidence room on the other side of the wall the evidence is removed and stored by either Sergeant Storro or Officer Giffin, the only officers having access to the evidence room. Evidence in the crowded Town Hall basement was vulnerable to contamination and loss due to the damp atmosphere.

All this may sound Kafkaesque, but Chief Lester assured me that it is necessary in protecting arrested individuals, the staff, and the public from harm. We are a small, mostly friendly village, but criminals and other dangerous people are among us.

The new building has done wonders for the morale of our police officers, not that it was ever low, but that the old APD quarters were so cramped, inefficient, unsafe, and unattractive that its inhabitants had to work in stressed conditions. Now they are able to complete their duties more efficiently and with greater ease in their new facility, they thus feel more professional, and they are grateful to Antrim’s residents for providing a building they and we can be proud of.

Having noticed that the contractor left a huge boulder on the southwest corner of the property and a maple tree on the northwest corner, I asked Chief Lester about landscaping. He said the rock and tree were left there for aesthetic reasons, and that another maple tree matching the current one will be planted. They have planned an attractive landscaping design that will be completed in the spring. ❁

FREE PANCAKE BREAKFASTS ANTRIM BAPTIST CHURCH

Sit back and think of warm pancakes, maybe blueberry pancakes, sausage, a hot cup of coffee, maybe some fruit. Add a few friends and the Sunday paper. Plus, add that it is all free once a month.

Well, think no further—it is all true. Bring your family and join friends at the Antrim Baptist Church for a free pancake breakfast on the third Sunday of the month (except April) 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. Sit back and enjoy pancakes, sausage, fruit, coffee and juice, plus enjoy the Sunday paper!

Come join us—you will know it’s Pancake Sunday when you see the banner in front of the Church. Mark you calendar for: March 16, April 13, May 18. ❁

Great Brook Veterinary Clinic
 Dr. Tom Dowling, Veterinarian
 Route 202 North • Antrim, NH 03440
 603 / 588-3460

TEN WAYS TO HELP YOUR TEEN CENTER

Maddie Beihl

1. Be Present. Take two hours out of your schedule and spend time supervising Friday night open hours at Avenue A. The average Friday is full of pool games and music, with chess matches and the occasional movie thrown into the mix. Pretty low-key stuff as far as chaperoning teens is concerned.

2. Donate. We always have wishes that need to be fulfilled. Donate a few rolls of paper towels, some unused board games, or a case of soda. Anything we can eliminate as an expense helps us work toward the goal of financial sustainability.

3. Clean. Believe it or not, young adults can be messy. An hour or two a month can keep the teen center comfortable for the teens (and more inviting for the rest of us.) We're not talking deep cleaning here, but a run to the transfer station and a quick sweep of the floor can do wonders.

4. Teach. If you have a special skill that you think could be valuable to local youth, schedule a time to teach it. Teens have such varied interests that anything from a guitar lesson to Pilates might draw a crowd.

5. Advise. Young adulthood is filled with first jobs, first relationships, first cars, and all sorts of other exciting opportunities. Lend a hand helping local teens find direction with direct advice from people who have "been there, done that." Set up a college application workshop, or spend time with teens creating resumes.

6. Plan. Do you make lists in your sleep? Color-code everything on the calendar? Avenue A needs someone to coordinate programs and manage the teen center schedule on a regular basis. This can be a behind-the-scenes position working either from your home or the teen center itself.

7. Promote. Spread the word about Avenue A by "liking" us on Facebook. If you are not a Facebook user, take a moment to strike up discussion with friends, children, neighbors, and grandchildren about teen center happenings.

8. Share. Avenue A is more than just a teen center—it is a community resource center. We strive to provide educational materials on local events, vocational opportunities, post-secondary education, physical and mental health, substance

abuse, bullying, and many other topics to those that visit Avenue A. We encourage community members to share information by alerting the teen center to relevant new events and opportunities at any time.

9. Utilize. Avenue A Teen Center is now available for use by donation. The spacious room includes a variety of seating arrangements, game tables, TV and VCR, stereo, kitchenette, and stage area. Scheduling an afternoon band practice, art class, or birthday party will help us to share the wonderful facility and spread the word about Avenue A.

10. Ask. Most importantly, do not wait to lend a hand at Avenue A. Ask yourself, your neighbors, the teen center staff, and the young adults who attend the center, "What can I do to help?" Reaching out to an organization is not always easy, and community service is not always fun. But if everyone contributes just a little more of their time and talent to a worthwhile cause like Avenue A Teen Center, communities will be changed for the better.

To learn more about Avenue A Teen Center, visit www.facebook.com/AvenueATeenCenter or call 588-3334. For questions about getting involved with Avenue A, email me at avenueateencenter@gmail.com. *

TEEN TECH TUTORS

Spend a few hours with those world-renowned experts of modern technology—teens. Bring your questions along with your gadgets and join local teens for "tech tutoring" at the James A. Tuttle Library. The sessions run from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and each week will focus on a different aspect of digital technology.

March 1—Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.)

March 8—Laptop Use

March 15—Smartphone Use

March 22—Digital Potpourri

Teen Tech Tutors is hosted by the Antrim-Bennington Lion's Club, Antrim Library Trustees, and Avenue A Teen Center. For more information, contact Stephen Ullman. *



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WHEN ANTRIM HAD ITS OWN HIGH SCHOOL

Robin Rockwell

Whenever I go to Antrim, which lately is quite often, I feel like there is something missing. Antrim had its own high school until 1970. There was a feeling of pride in town about the school and its sports teams. I attended a game between Con-Val and Hanover at the Great Brook School last February and noticed there were not many people in attendance. It appeared to me that there were more adults than students at the game. Maybe it had to do with the fact there were only three Con-Val players from Antrim.

We used to have twelve to fifteen boys play on basketball and baseball teams. The same number of girls competed on their teams as well. Slightly fewer ran cross-country. I can remember watching Stanley Dutton, Don Putnam, and Bubby Cole when I was in the fifth grade play basketball for the high school team. A few years later, I was fortunate enough to play with Brian Brown, John Topping, Mike Chase, Bruce Flanders, and Ed Coughlin when I was a freshman. Later, as a senior, our basketball team went 16-3 and had Bill Davies, Steve Brzozowski, Fred Doleac, Jeff Barsanti, and myself as the starting five. If we had all attended Con-Val possibly some of us would have not made the teams. That's what makes a small school special.

Antrim High School also produced some fine girls' basketball teams. Irene Baer, June Grant, Nancy McLean, Charlene Douglas, Lynn Palhof, Nancy Ellinwood, Jane and Suzie Beauchamp, Ella Houston, Sally Baker, Ann and Linda Dunlap, and my sister Bonnie were excellent players.

Antrim High also had fine cheerleading squads led by Betsey Olsen. I remember the Mercier sisters, Debbie and Dolly, along with Eileen Magoon, Sandra Putnam, Joy Craig, Patti and Betty Hammond, Linda Ashford, Julie and Suzie Keating, Dawne Huntington, Mabel Grant, and Cindy Schacht cheering for AHS.

I miss the days of ole Antrim High School and the camaraderie that was formed from the various teams I participated on. I miss seeing the Antrim High School band with Ray Sweeney, Brian Reilly, Larry Nay, Hal Grant, Ruth, Cathy and Dick Brzozowski, and Susan Chandler along with many others perform under the direction of Izzie Nichols. I can remember Alison Currier in her white majorette uniform leading the band at the gym before a boys' basketball game playing "Batman." Their rendition was awesome!

All this led to school pride. I believe this is what is missing from Antrim today. No longer does the town have twelve

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The People's Service Exchange

CALL Nancy O'Brien • 588-2620

email: PeoplesServiceExchange@tds.net

website: www.pse-nh.org

ANTRIM-BENNINGTON LIONS CLUB

Steve Ullman

The Antrim-Bennington Lions Club had another productive fall quarter. In September, Lions once again served Home and Harvest attendees its often imitated, but never equaled, chicken barbecue dinners. While chicken-lovers were delighted with master chef John Robertson's scrumptious half chickens, the Lions also dished out hamburgers, hotdogs, veggie burgers and a variety of side dishes.

The holiday season saw the Lions Christmas trees sale at Tenney farm. With the proceeds, the Club made substantial contributions to various sight and hearing projects as well as to "Operation Santa" which makes certain that needy Antrim children and Conval High School students receive a Christmas present.

The second edition of the "Antrim Bennington Outdoor Guide" was produced and distributed throughout the community under the leadership of the indefatigable Dick Loveland. Club members wish to thank local businesses for their generous support which made publication possible. Antrim residents can view the Outdoor Guide on line at www.ablions.org

On January 16, 2014 the Lions presided over the Community Supper at the Presbyterian Church. Cordon Bleu-quality cook Rick King masterminded the preparation of more than seventy delectable meals

The Lions are planning several projects for the next few months. Lions Dick and Robin Loveland, Richard and Mary Reilly, John and Sue Conklin, Joan Gorga, and Terry Postlethwait are participating in eye screening sessions at Antrim Elementary, Bennington Elementary, Hancock Elementary, Frankestown Elementary, Greenfield Elementary, and the Grapevine.

Linda Tenney will be coordinating the "Read with a Lion" programs at the Antrim and Bennington Elementary Schools

Dick Loveland and Steve Ullman are planning technology workshops by Antrim's "Teen Tech Tutors". The sessions are aimed especially at adults who need instruction in social media, smartphones, I pads, and other computer applications. See article on page 7. 

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BEN PRATT, ENGINEER OF THE YEAR

Dick Winslow

Antrim's Ben Pratt has been voted Engineer of the Year by the New Hampshire Engineering Societies. Formal recognition was made at the New Hampshire Society of Professional Engineer's annual banquet on February 20th in Bedford.

Although he has had a fine career as a Mechanical Engineer, Ben believes the award has been given to him in recognition of his leadership of a program to improve mathematical skills in school students, specifically 6th, 7th and 8th graders. The program is called MATHCOUNTS. MATHCOUNTS programs exist in all 50 states, and each state is divided into MATHCOUNTS regions. New Hampshire has six such regions (with Antrim in the Keene Region), and Ben is State Coordinator as well as the Keene Regional Coordinator. He has worked with this program for the past thirty-one years!

MATHCOUNTS administers student contests, both for individual students and for small teams of students. Winners of Regional contests proceed to State Contests and State winners advance to the national contest that, this year, will be held in Orlando, Florida. The Keene Regional contests take place at Keene State College, members of whose math department have been extremely helpful. Winners of N.H. Regional contests go on to State contests held at Plymouth State University.

Some 50 New Hampshire schools and nearly 400 students annually take part in the MATHCOUNTS program. College and University scholarships very frequently go to MATHCOUNTS winners. National winners are invariably offered scholarships by very top institutions such as Harvard and M.I.T.

Ben has had an interesting career. From 1960 to 2003 he worked at New Hampshire Ball Bearing in Peterborough as a member of the engineering department: he retired as Principal Engineer in 2003. Prior to 1960 he had worked for Kingsbury Machine Tool Corporation and Raytheon.

Professional career to one side, Ben's community involvement has been remarkable. In Antrim he has served as Selectman, Sewer and Water Commissioner, Library Trustee, member of the Board of Adjustment, member of the Antrim Energy and Capital Improvement Committees, and he has been on the Board of the Grapevine since its inception. The fact

that Antrim now enjoys the use of the Aiken Barn, behind Tuttle Library for various meetings and presentations is thanks to the efforts of David Penny, Bob Bernstein and Ben Pratt. It was they who arranged for a mortgage to buy the structure and have it rebuilt. Ever since its completion it has, importantly, been home for the Grapevine.

Ben, who recently turned 80, is Antrim born and bred. He



went through the 10th grade in Antrim schools, then transferred to the Mt. Hermon School in Gill, Massachusetts, where he completed high school. He graduated from Mt. Hermon in 1951 and then entered the University of New Hampshire. That he has now been voted Engineer of the Year is all the more remarkable since he left UNH after only two years and never completed a college degree. When thereafter he realized that his career would be severely limited without certification, he undertook intense private studies of mechanical engineering followed by an exhaustive comprehensive examination administered by the New Hampshire State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers—and passed it! The rest is history. ✨



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FAUX FUR

Peter Gagne

I seldom have to put myself through the torture of going into a city much bigger than Peterborough. It's a shocking and overwhelming experience that starts and ends with me ingesting Tums to help with the indigestible world I will encounter.

I was off to pick my sister up at the Manchester airport for Christmas and opted to swing into the Mall to buy some small stocking stuffers. As I was crossing the parking lot a woman I would say in her late twenties with a young child approached me in what I thought was an amazing fur vest and hat. I stopped and complimented her on the look of her fur. In a stern voice she said, "This is not fur. It's fake fur called *faux fur*. I would never be so cruel to an animal."

I was politely taken aback, and she went on her way. Ironically her daughter was carrying a Happy Meal burger from McDonald's, and she had several candy boxes as gifts. Wow, could I have had fun with that!

What is a *faux fur*, and why do I ask?

Faux fur is a manufactured product consisting of Polymeric fibers made from plastic, proteins (including hair, nails and tortoise shells), cellulose, Silly Putty, and rubber. These fibers are processed by machines that run on oil, gas, and electricity. They are mixed with chemicals, dyes, and paints, and are processed in factories mainly over seas by underpaid overworked employees. They are shipped by boats or trucks burning diesel fuel.

Ok, so knowing all that, why would you wear something that is supposed to be fur unless everyone does not stop and ask you if it's real or not? Well, judgment is passed. If you actually are a down-to-earth, back-to-earth, love-the-earth, feel-the-earth, all that hug-the-planet stuff, then you would never wear faux fur. You would wear real fur.

Most fur comes from animals caught by trappers. Trapping has regulated seasons and it serves a much more important role than just putting beautiful pelts on garments and out for sale. It helps maintain population of animals that without regulation becomes too large for the land they live on. This overpopulation causes starvation and brutal diseases that are passed on to us and other animals. Mange and other parasites

cause animals to die a slow and painful death, And can one imagine starving to death? Trappers use a lot of skill and time and energy. Their vehicles use little gas and oil since most trap lines are small and within a ten-mile radius of home. Trappers themselves must process the fur, and it is a challenging and labor-intensive job that is done by folks who just love the work. Granted, it has to be shipped off to be tanned with chemicals and made into garments, but there are much fewer invasive products involved. Most fur products are processed in small workshops where the work is done by hand and with sewing machines by folks with amazing skills. A large percent is still done right here in the USA. Imagine that.

Real fur is a product of Mother Nature, here for a purpose. Animals were put on this earth to enjoy their lives. Then came men and women. Well, look what we have done, we have ruined a once simple life that we had to work at to survive. We now have a world that speaks of organic this, organic that, Save the Trees, Save the Birds, Save the Water, Save the Animals! The problem that just dumbfounds me is that no one gets that while we keep inventing all these great new things to live better, we are doing so much more harm.

Faux fur, like so many of today's imitations, contradicts itself. What's next, oil and coal are better than windmills? ☼

HOLD YOUR HORSES!

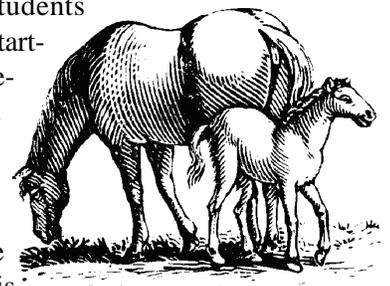
Beth Merrill

Two horse-related events will take place at Rainy Day Farm at 107 West Street this spring. After a several year hiatus, the 4-H horse club, formerly known as the Hot To Trot 4-H Club, will be reorganized with the first meeting at the farm on Monday, March 17th at 6:00 p.m. The club will be limited in size to eight members who are interested in learning all aspects of horses with a large focus on natural horsemanship philosophies.

Participation in club, county, and state 4-H activities will be encouraged and regular attendance at the monthly meetings (third Mondays) is expected.

An Open Barn is scheduled for May 3rd from 1-4:00 p.m. with demonstrations by students and instructors at the arena starting at 1:00 followed by refreshments, displays, and Q&A at the barn. Anyone curious to know more about horses, 4-H, Parelli Natural horsemanship (why DO we carry those orange sticks?) is welcome to drop by and check out what we have to offer.

For more information on either of these events, please contact Beth Merrill at 588-6615 or abmrdf@mcttelecom.com.



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HOPE COMMITTEE FORMS

Marcia Ullman

Detective Jason LePine of Antrim's Police Department recently gave a presentation at Avenue A Teen Center on "Adolescent Substance Abuse in Antrim and Surrounding Towns." (The term "substance abuse" includes, but is not limited to, abuse of alcohol, street drugs, prescription drugs, inhalants, tobacco and bath salts.) After hearing Detective LePine's talk, a group of concerned citizens under the auspices of The Grapevine formed a committee to explore ways to address the startling issues he raised. The name of this new committee is HOPE (Health Opportunity Prevention Education).

The goals of the committee are as follows:

A. To increase community awareness of: 1) the extent of substance abuse among adolescents in Antrim and nearby towns, 2) the problems that arise as a result of substance abuse, 3) signs and symptoms of substance abuse in adolescents, and 4) treatment options available to adolescents with substance abuse problems.

B. To support the Antrim Police Department in its efforts to make our community safe from the consequences of adolescent substance abuse.

C. To support the work of Antrim's Parks and Recreation Commission to make Antrim's parks and recreational facilities safe, inviting places for people of all ages, and to provide fun and challenging alternatives to self-destructive behaviors.

D. To establish a substance abuse prevention program beginning with programs already in place at The Grapevine, such as parent/child programs, Guiding Good Choices, Avenue A activities, and community engagement activities.

The HOPE Committee is made up of the following individuals: Kristen Vance, Executive Director of The Grapevine; Detective Jason LePine, Antrim Police Department; Jim Elder, Principal, Great Brook School; Joan Gorga, Chair, Antrim Parks and Recreation Commission; Celeste Lunetta, Antrim Recreation Director; Sydney Wilson-Smith, Social Worker; Kathleen Robbins, R.N., Substance Abuse Educator; Maddie Beihl, Community Organizer, Avenue A; Jamie Bergeron, Student, ConVal High School; and Marcia Ullman, Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse Clinical Specialist and Chairperson of the HOPE committee.

For more information contact Marcia Ullman at 588-2005.

Eat Out FOR The Grapevine

March 7 • Rick and Diane's Pizzeria, Antrim • All Day

March 16 • Common Place Eatery, Bennington
Breakfast 7:00–11:00 a.m.

March 23 • Hancock Inn, Hancock • Sunday Dinner

March 27 • Fiddlehead's Cafe, Hancock • All Day

(20% of gross receipts donated to the Grapevine)

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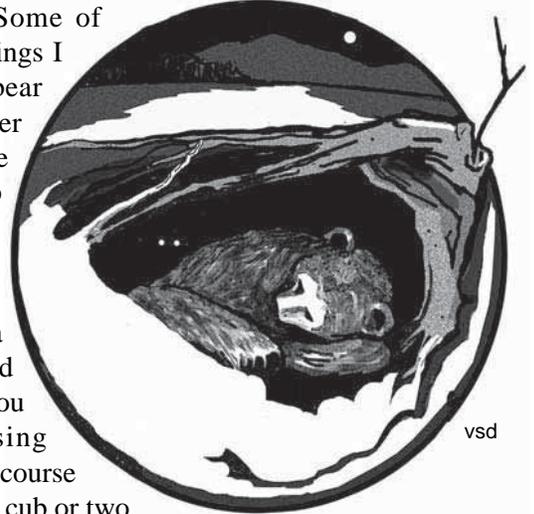
Janet MacLachlan

Those bears are pretty smart. They spend their winters in a warm cozy den while the temperatures drop to zero and below outside, and the rest of us haul wood inside and stoke the woodstove. They sleep on while the snow falls and the wind blows, and we humans plow our driveways and shovel our walks, shivering in the icy blasts

from Canada. Some of these cold mornings I wish I were a bear and could hunker down under the quilts and keep on snoozing away for a few more hours. It wouldn't be a bad way to spend the winter and you would be losing weight, too. Of course you might find a cub or two

sharing the den with you come springtime. That must come as a surprise! But perhaps Mama Bear knew all the time what was in store for her when the big sleep was over, and perhaps that is why she took that long, deep rest. It was her vacation before motherhood happened. I hope she is enjoying her vacation time, having happy dreams of eating blueberries and raiding bird feeders, before the responsibility of raising a family takes over her life.

Perhaps she will pay a visit to my backyard feeder come spring and I'll get to see her new family as she teaches them how to find birdseed and suet.



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400 ppm and rising. That is higher than it has been for hundreds of thousands of years. As the content of carbon dioxide and other heat-trapping gases has increased, the amount of Arctic sea ice has decreased and the permafrost is melting, releasing methane that is many times worse than carbon dioxide in its heat-trapping effects. Quite realistically, we are now engaged in the largest-scale experiment in the history of the human race, and we do not know what the results of this experiment will be. We are the guinea pigs in the experiment, along with every other living thing on this earth. One thing we do know is that if we were able to completely shut down every fossil-fueled power plant on the face of the earth along with every car, truck and other fossil-fuel consuming device around the world, it would still take more than a thousand years to restore our atmosphere to the condition it was in at the start of the industrial revolution.

If we are to keep this planet in a condition where we can continue to live on it, we must greatly reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and develop renewable sources of energy. To be successful, we must also show the other industrial nations of the world, like China and India, how to achieve these results in a practical way. This is a daunting challenge, but the first step must be to get our own house in order. Here in New Hampshire, we are still generating a substantial portion of our electricity with coal-burning power plants. Recently, in order to meet the demand for power, Public Service Co. has been operating two combustion turbines at the Bow plant to provide an additional 40 megawatts of power. This is expensive and highly inefficient. Many changes and new developments will be required to cost-effectively utilize renewable energy. This must be a high-priority objective, and real progress must be made quickly if we are to avoid serious consequences.

Here in New Hampshire, we may not immediately see the most serious ill effects of climate change that now challenge other people around the world, but that does not excuse us from responsibly doing our part to deal with the problem. We have now measurably warmed the world's oceans to a depth of more than a mile. The recent typhoon in the Philippines that killed more than 6,000 people developed in ocean water of 86 degrees F, and that may have accounted for the wind

velocities that were higher than any we have ever seen in that type of storm. That confronts us with a cruel irony and a moral issue. The people in the Philippines who were devastated by that storm are not the ones that warmed the Pacific Ocean. The poor people in Bangladesh did not cause the rise in sea level that is contaminating their wells with salt and destroying their agriculture. The people in the Maldives did not cause the change in sea level that is in the process of making their island homeland uninhabitable. Close to home, I am concerned for the welfare of my three great-granddaughters. Those little girls have done nothing to contribute to the problems that now confront us, but they will get the bill. I am afraid that, before they reach my age, they will look back with dismay and a sense of wonderment at how our generation could have been so short sighted and so selfish. This is really an issue of "Environmental Justice." If we are complacent and simply feel that the problems are someone else's responsibility and that we are free to enjoy our current standard of living without making some sacrifices to improve things, that will be bad for the less fortunate people of the world, but it will also be profoundly bad for what such an attitude would cause us to become.

I urge you to vote in favor of the wind ordinance. ✨

Board whose duty it is to craft zoning ordinances or to hold a public hearing in an effort to welcome input and possibly use that input to allow for the creation of an ordinance that reflects the voice of our community. Instead they felt it was appropriate to craft this proposed Amendment privately with the direct involvement of the developer outside of the public's eye and file it legally at the 11th hour of the last day in which one may submit a petitioned warrant article for a vote on March 11. That process and method has resulted in the proposed Ordinance being shallow, inadequately structured and potentially a financial risk to Antrim residents who pay real estate taxes.

In addition, a mailing was sent to a selected list of residents also crafted by Antrim Wind Energy, LLC explaining the attributes of the project, but why they chose to exclude some registered voters, only they can explain.

What the voters of Antrim must understand is that by voting "Yes" on this ballot question you will be voting for the actual ordinance written to a large extent by the developer. This approach is no different from developers' writing their own subdivision regulations which is clearly unacceptable.

The ordinance as proposed by the petitioners raises many concerns, including:

- 1) The noise standards exceed those set by SEC in its 2013 decision on Antrim Wind Energy's decision in 2013.
- 2) No environmental studies required.

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MY FATHER BROUGHT THE BEATLES TO AMERICA

Gordon Webber



“My Father brought the Beatles to America,” was always a good conversation starter growing up. It still is, especially with the recent 50th anniversary of the event. Harold “Pat” Webber was a flight engineer for Pan American Airline for 37 years before retiring in 1990. On February 7, 1964, Flight 101 left Heathrow Airport and arrived at Kennedy. My Father was the flight engineer on this trip and we kids reveled at this connection to fame. I remember Dad complaining about their long hair, and after watching them on the Ed Sullivan Show he commented on how they would never make anything of themselves. Years later he would joke with us how he had to walk down the aisle of the plane with bug spray after he heard there were Beatles on board. In the photo Dad can be seen in uniform in the lower left looking up at the Fab Four as they came down the stairs to step foot for the first time on US soil. ❀

Vote No continued

3) No provision for alternative siting of turbines or roads
4) No requirement to provide a View Shed study of the project. The height limit is set not to exceed 500’ for the turbines that makes them the tallest manmade structures in New Hampshire.

5) The section relating to Decommissioning and its financial requirements is not adequate as written and should a project of this magnitude fail, potential adverse risk could result to Antrim taxpayers. Much can be done to improve its wording to protect the Town. These points of concern were raised with the Select Board many times during the creation of the Agreement and the two PILOT documents. They were also raised at the SEC hearings in Concord before the project was denied.

6) The Ordinance as proposed allows Wind Farms to be located along Route 9 and Route 202 (Highway Business (HB) Zones) without any analysis to determine if it makes prudent planning sense to do so, and with no prior input from our Planning Board that developed the criteria associated with the HB zone. The question that needs to be asked is how that will impact other commercial development opportunities that might be of a higher and better use in the two gateway corridors and how it might affect those owning a personal residence along the two key routes. To simply include Routes 9 and 202 in their entirety with no impact or planning analysis is inappropriate and ill advised. Voters may recall that Antrim Wind Energy, LLC representatives stated that its proposed location is the only location in Antrim that makes sense for a Large Scale Energy Farm.

7) Many additional administrative wording improvements are needed to strengthen and protect Antrim and its taxpay-

ers, and this can be accomplished very easily. I believe that for these reasons, the Antrim Planning Board has voted not to recommend the passage of the Petitioned Warrant Article to Amend the Town of Antrim’s Zoning Ordinance to allow for the development of Wind Farms.

I previously submitted a three-page document to the Antrim Planning Board identifying the weaknesses of the proposed Ordinance which is available at the Town Hall.

The Antrim Planning Board has invested countless hours developing a Large Scale Wind Farm Ordinance that didn’t gain acceptance due to being either too restrictive or not restrictive enough, but it was a meaningful beginning to developing an ordinance that addresses the extremely complex subject of Large Scale Wind Farms.

As I discussed at the recent Planning Board public hearing, we are all genuinely concerned with the continued use of fossil fuels and their future adverse environmental impact on our future. We must develop a sensible renewable energy direction for both our state and our community.

We can and should continue our work with the development of a Large Scale Wind Farm Ordinance, but we need to do so collectively as a community through our elected Planning Board to accomplish a well thought out and implemented ordinance that truly represents the beliefs of our community as a whole and not simply the interests of 42 residents and a developer who will achieve financial gain with the passage of this proposed Amendment to our Zoning Ordinance in its present form.

I respectfully encourage you to vote “no” on this ballot question. ❀

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH: HARD TO BELIEVE

Sharon Dowling, Music Director

It is hard to believe that a year ago the First Presbyterian Church in Antrim was still without a Pastor, and making do with a series of substitute ministers and often relying on Elders to lead worship. Despite the challenges our situation posed, by pulling together the congregation not only held on but continued to provide weekly Sunday services, celebrating with joy and continued faith. The Senior Center, the Revival Shop, the Celtic Evensong, monthly Community Suppers, and other regular events were still continuing under its roof. Last March, Session was still struggling to come up with a solution that would provide consistent leadership that could also fit the constrained budget. The month of May brought flowers of spring- and Pastor Jan Howe! A wonderful ten months has passed, and our "Stated Supply," part time Pastor has brought new energy and other welcome blessings along with her.

It is hard to believe that after years of watching the paint crumble off the steeple and the front face of the church building, as funds to paint were nonexistent, a request sent to the Townspeople of Antrim to help raise funds resulted in a most generous response. Before the month was out, Edmunds Hardware had offered to donate the paint needed, and the rest of the estimated costs were amassed. The grinding down process took longer than the painting, but the results are stunning. This miracle of generosity means the church is no longer an eyesore on Main Street, but also adds to the life of the building as it now stands. First Presbyterian Church thanks all who contributed, and decorated their Festival of Trees entry to reflect the deep gratitude we all feel.

It is hard to believe that our Celtic Evensong service began its 4th Season last October, and continues to meet at 5:30 p.m. every First Sunday from October thru June. If you have not tried out this peaceful, candlelit contemplative service—completely unlike typical Sunday morning worship—you might find this experience moving and refreshing. We like to think of it as 45 minutes of a spiritual oasis. Come feel the love, and bring a friend!

It is hard to believe that under all this snow and ice (as I write this) Spring is really and truly right around the corner!

Because we now have Pastor Jan in our midst, First Presbyterian Church is happy to announce the worship calendar for the Lenten Season thru Easter: Please join us for an Ash Wednesday Service on March 5 at 6:30 p.m. This will be a meditative, reflective Communion service and will include the disposition of ashes. Palm/Passion Sunday on April 13, at 10:30 a.m., will start off Holy Week. Maundy Thursday on April 17 will be celebrated at 6:30 p.m. with Holy Communion. Good Friday, April 18, at 6:30 p.m. will offer a quiet, contemplative half hour with readings, silence and simple music.

Finally, Holy Week will end with a JOYFUL Easter Morning on April 20. The Baptist Church has traditionally joined the Presbyterians on alternating church lawns each year. This year Pastor Charlie Boucher will lead worship at 6:30 am on the lawn of the Presbyterian Church. Fellowship and a Continental breakfast will follow in the Fellowship Hall! Regular service will begin at 10:30 a.m. for those less intrepid souls. The sanctuary is always beautiful on Easter morning, filled with flowers, and glorious music. Come join us for any or all of these worship services as we combine our voices in prayer and song and celebrate the Spirit of God and Love of Christ in all things. ✨



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JOHN GIFFIN: POLICEMAN-ARTIST

Lyman Gilmore



John Giffin last appeared in the *Limrik* in 2009 as an artist who had created a massive steel moose statue at the entrance to Place In the Woods. Now he is an Antrim Police Officer. He is still making steel art, though smaller creations.

John Giffin has wanted to be a policeman since childhood, but he detoured through a tour in the Marine Corps from 1991 to 1994, six years at the paper mill, and eleven as a General Motors Technician in Nashua and Manchester. As he got on to be thirty-six and thirty-seven years old, working sixty to seventy hours a week for GM in a declining economy, with the encouragement of his wife Coleen, he stopped by the Antrim Police Department and spoke with Chief Scott Lester who had been a couple years behind him in school. John wrote and submitted a resume, and was thrilled when Chief Lester told him the Selectmen wanted to offer him a part-time Police job, an offer and a thrill that suddenly vanished when the town declared a hiring-freeze because of its financial crisis.

Frustrated by how close to working in law enforcement he had come, John applied to departments in Milford, Henniker,

and Bennington, but nobody was hiring. Then, with Antrim's crisis resolved, Chief Lester re-offered John the part-time job that he happily started January 1st, 2011 while still working for GM.

2011 was a very busy year for John who in addition to being part-time in Antrim was also part-time on the Bennington force while still working for GM in Manchester, as well as completing two stints at the NH Police Academy in Concord where he became certified as both a part-time and a full-time Police Officer.

In January 2011 John became a full-time Officer in Bennington where he averaged eighty-five arrests a year while continuing part-time in Antrim. Finally, a full-time position opened in Antrim to which John was appointed in October 2013.

Asked what he especially likes about being a policeman here, John said he enjoys the fact that there is something different every day. Also, "I like working the road, interacting with people, lots of talk back and forth—you have to be quick because often people try to mislead you."

As for what he is not fond of, like most police officers I have interviewed John dislikes dealing with intoxicated people who are repetitive and frequently dangerous. Another unpleasant and potentially dangerous situation police officers encounter regularly are domestic disputes, often in private apartments and houses. "Usually alcohol is involved, and weapons are near, including the kitchen butcher block holding a half dozen knives and the pot of boiling water on the stove. Domestic calls are responsible for the greatest number of police officers hurt or killed."

So, whether you need protection from bad guys, or want one of his lovely steel animal silhouettes for your home, policeman-artist John Giffin may be your man. ❁



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ANTRIM RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Celeste Lunetta, Director

COMING UP FOR SPRING 2014

Children's Stage Adventures returns for a spring musical theater program during April School Vacation. We will be producing "The Emperors New Clothes." This musical theater program is for kids ages 7 through 15. We have parts for 30 or more children. This will be our third production with Rob and Lorrie Gray of CSA, and we have been very impressed with their work. We'll have CSA Monday-Friday, **April 21 to April 25**. On Monday the 21, we have parts assignments for all kids. The rehearsal schedule will be issued at that time. Some parts rehearse five hours per day. Some rehearse less. All kids have full rehearsal on Thursday, and Friday. There will be two performances, a matinee at 1:00 and an evening show at 6:30. The registration form is online at www.antrimnh.org. We ask that kids register before Friday April 18, so that we know we have enough actors for the production. We can accept payment on Monday.

We are excited to be sponsoring a "**Fishing in NH**" series of clinics for middle school kids. We are holding this series with the Harris Center for Conservation Education, with support from the Monadnock Paper Mills. The outcome of this collaboration means a free fishing workshop for middle schoolers! The program starts on March 18 and goes through May 6, meeting Tuesdays from 2:15-3:45 p.m. Instruction and hands-on-experience with lake and stream fishing, fly tying, the fisheries program, and safety are all a part of this program. Registration is limited, and is open until March 7 or until the program is full. Registration forms are online at www.antrimnh.org.

Spring Sports signups are well underway. Baseball, Lacrosse, and Softball teams are formed with regional and state leagues. Track and Field is in late May and June; "Sporties for Shorties" (a multi sports developmental program for ages 4-5 years) is run in May and June.

Roller Skating at the Antrim Town Gym, for all ages, will be Saturdays March 8, April 12 and May 10. Each month there is a theme and a cause (donations for a charity). Skate rentals are available, and the event is complete with a DJ! Cost is \$5 for rentals, \$2 admission per person.

Movie Nights and **Community Bus trips** are not confirmed as of press time for the Limrik. Please call or check the town website or the Rec Department Facebook page.

The annual **Antrim Friends of Recreation Egg Hunt** for children up to age 10 will be held at Memorial Park on Saturday April 12, at 10:00 a.m. Bring your own Basket. New this year, we will have an egg hunt for kids ages 10-14 years on Friday April 11. This egg hunt will start at the Antrim Town

Gym at 8:00 p.m. Bring your own FLASHLIGHT and basket or bag. We ask for monetary donations from participants to help support this event, as the costs to provide the candy and eggs really starts to add up. Any amount helps.

Family Fun Night is back! Join us on Friday March 7 and Friday May 2, from 5:00-8:30 p.m. at the Town Gym. We invite families of kids in Kindergarten through 6th grade to come play in the gym! We'll set up crafts, sports and games. Free!

The **Annual Fishing Derby** at the Mill Pond is on Saturday May 3, with lines in the water at 8:00 a.m. The annual **Bike Safety Event**, sponsored by the Antrim Police and the Antrim Bennington Lions Club, will also be on Saturday May 3, from 2-4:00 p.m. The bike event is held at the Antrim Town Gym.

Summer Camp and **Swimming Lesson** information is posted online, as well as available at our office and at Town Hall. Early bird rates for Summer Camp are available to families who register before Memorial Day, Friday May 23. We're looking forward to a great summer.

As we head into the warmer part of the year, we hope the parks will fill up with people from town that want clean, beautiful, and well maintained outdoor spaces for group and individual recreational activities. Please join our efforts to maintain the parks by following our park rules. Please pick up pet waste and all litter, and dispose of it properly. Carry out your own trash. Please keep wheeled vehicles, including bikes, off of the turf and the tennis courts. Please report activity that is illegal, dangerous, or inconsistent with the intended use of the facility to the police if it is illegal or an emergency, or to the Recreation Department. Antrim is a great town. The parks built over the past few generations are a legacy to protect. We welcome your help.

The Recreation Department programs, and the Recreation and Parks facilities, exist with the support of the town and with revenue from user fees. We continue to seek ways to improve our programs, maintain our facilities and make them inviting and vital to the residents. Look for us at Town Meeting, we'd love to share some stories or answer any questions. ☀

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Baptist Church • 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MARCH

- 1 **Teen Tech Tutors** Session on Social Media • Tuttle Library • 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
- 1 **Dr Seuss' Birthday Celebration** • Tuttle Library
- 2 **Celtic Evensong** • Presbyterian Church • 5:30 p.m.
- 5 **Friend-to-Friend Potluck Dinner** • Baptist Church • 5:45 p.m.
- 6 **Confident Parents-Remarkable Kids** • Program at The Grapevine • 6:30 p.m.
- 8 **Teen Tech Tutors** Session on Laptop Use • Tuttle Library • 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
- 11 **Reading with Mozart the Therapy Dog** • Tuttle Library • 6:30–7:30 p.m.
- 11 **Elections** • Town Hall • 8:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.
- 13 **Town Meeting** • Town Gym • 7:00 p.m.
- 15 **Teen Tech Tutors** Session on Smartphone Use • Tuttle Library • 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
- 16 **Free Pancake Breakfast** • Baptist Church • 8:30–10:00 a.m.
- 17 **4-H Horse Club** • meeting at Rainy Day Farm, Antrim • 6:00 p.m.
- 19 **Systematic Training for Effective Parenting** • Program at The Grapevine • 6:00 p.m.
- 20 **Free Community Supper** • Presbyterian Church • 5:30 p.m.
- 22 **Teen Tech Tutors** Session on Digital Potpourri • Tuttle Library • 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

APRIL

- 2 **Friend-to-Friend Potluck Dinner** • Baptist Church • 5:45 p.m.
- 6 **Celtic Evensong** • Presbyterian Church • 5:30 p.m.
- 8 **Reading with Mozart the Therapy Dog** • Tuttle Library • 6:30–7:30 p.m.
- 11 **Egg Hunt** • kids ages 10–14 • Antrim Rec Dept at Town Gym • 8:00 p.m.
- 12 **Egg Hunt** • children up to age 10 • Antrim Rec Dept at Memorial Park • 10:00 a.m.
- 13 **Free Pancake Breakfast** • Baptist Church • 8:30–10:00 a.m.
- 13 **History of Caughey & Pratt** • Ben Pratt • Historical Society at the Presbyterian Church • 3:00 p.m.
- 16 **Healthy Soils** • Program at Antrim Grange
- 17 **Free Community Supper** • Presbyterian Church • 5:30 p.m.
- 19 **Drop-In Easter Craft** • Tuttle Library • 11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
- 21–25 **Children's Stage Adventures** • ages 7–15 • Antrim Recreation Department • 6:00 p.m.

MAY

- 3 **Annual Fishing Derby** • Antrim Rec Dept at Mill Pond • 8:00 a.m.
- 3 **4-H Horse Club Open Barn** • Rainy Day Farm, Antrim • 1:00–4:00 p.m.
- 3 **Annual Bike Safety Event** • Antrim Police Dept at Town Gym • 2:00–4:00 p.m.
- 4 **Celtic Evensong** • Presbyterian Church • 5:30 p.m.
- 7 **Friend-to-Friend Potluck Dinner** • Baptist Church • 5:45 p.m.
- 10 **10th Annual Spring Walk for Families** • meet at The Grapevine Parking Lot • 9:30 a.m.
- 10 **Train Day at Your Library** • Tuttle Library
- 13 **Reading with Mozart the Therapy Dog** • Tuttle Library • 6:30–7:30 p.m.
- 15 **Free Community Supper** • Presbyterian Church • 5:30 p.m.
- 18 **Free Pancake Breakfast** • Baptist Church • 8:30–10:00 a.m.
- 18 **NH Towns and the Civil War** • Historical Society at the Presbyterian Church • 3:00 p.m.
- 21 **Community Awards Night** • Program at Antrim Grange
- 31 **Big Bold Grown Up Paint Camp** • The Grapevine • 9:00 a.m.

high school players in any sport. No longer does the town have a basketball team it can unite behind. No longer does any school rivalry exist such as Antrim versus Hollis or Antrim versus Marlboro. I cannot help but feel that the Antrim students would benefit by having their own high school in town.

Now there are discussions of sending the middle school students to Peterborough to save money. I hope this doesn't happen. I was pleased to see Antrim rally against this idea and vote it down. In my opinion it would reduce the opportunities for students to participate in various sport activities and to form friendships that evolve from being teammates. I would not trade one minute of my time in the Antrim Schools for any other—it was that special to me. I understand the logic that a school such as Con-Val provides a better education and may be good for tax savings, but for me I am glad there was an Antrim High School and hopefully Great Brook Middle School stays in Antrim where I believe it belongs. ✿

TAX RATES

Eric Tenney

Now that the town, school, and county are in the “Town Meeting” time of year, I thought you might be interested in how all those meetings might influence your taxes. There are several factors that affect your taxes. I will discuss each one of them so hopefully you can make a better decision when it comes to voting.

I'll start with last year's tax bill. There was some confusion about why some people paid more and some paid less, with the new revaluation kicking in. Antrim valuation dropped about 14% from \$257,000,000 to around \$221,000,000. If your property dropped less than 14%, your taxes would go up. If it dropped more than this your taxes would have gone down. And if it dropped about the same per cent your taxes would have been about the same. This statement is true only if the town, school, and county, budgets were the same as the prior year. We all know that's not going to happen. The most important number to remember in this paragraph is the number \$221,000,000. If you divide that number by 1000 you have \$221,000. This the amount of money it takes to influence your tax rate by \$1.00. Spend that much more it will cost you \$1.00/thousand on your taxes, cut that much and it will decrease your taxes by \$1.00/thousand.

Town budgets (income & expense) are fairly straightforward. Take the difference between last year's expenses and this year's expenses, and do the same with the revenue budgets. The net difference between last year's budgets and this year's is how much the town's share of the tax rate will change. For example: expenses are up \$200,000, revenues up 100,000. The difference to be raised by taxes is \$100,000. Applying that number from the preceding paragraph \$221,000/\$1.00, the town's share of the tax rate would go up \$.45.

The county share of the tax rate is computed much like the town share except for one important difference. All the town and city shares of the county “amount to be raised by taxes” is based on equalized valuation. What happens is this: the NH Department of Revenue Administration (DRA) does an annual audit of a town's valuation. They base this on recent “arm's length sales.” They arrive at their own valuation of the town. All the municipal equalized valuations in Hillsboro County are added together and each town's share is computed based its valuation % of the total county valuation.

The school share of the tax rate comes in two parts. First, the state share is based on the DRA equalized valuation minus utilities. Antrim pays a little over 2% on the state's equalized valuation of the town. . We actually receive this money back in the form of the “adequacy grant” that Conval receives. (An “adequacy grant” is a form of state aid to towns based on the number of students attending its schools. If school population goes up, so does the grant, and if the population goes down the grant is reduced.)

Now to compute the local school tax: To start with, Conval

Celtic Evensong

March 2 • April 6 • May 4

Presbyterian Church • 5:30 p.m.

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does what the town and county do, figure out income and expenses and how much money is to be raised by taxes. After that the famous 50-50 formula for paying for Conval is applied to that money. A town's share is broken into two parts. First is the valuation part of the formula. Just like the county, all the Conval towns' equalized valuations are added together. Antrim's share is what % of the total Conval number is. The same calculation is made with the student part of the formula to arrive at Antrim's % share of the student population. These %'s are each applied to 50% of the Conval "amount to be raised by taxes." After all this is done the state adequacy grant is credited against each town's obligation to the district. Only then do we know what Antrim owes Conval.

In summary let me make the following points. A town's valuation used to set the tax rate is not always the same as the town's equalized valuation. (The reason for equalization is that towns do not always reevaluate at the same time). The adequacy grant is determined by the state, and Conval has no control over it. In 2013 Antrim's share was reduced by over \$300,000. This is the other reason why Antrim's tax rate went up so much in 2013. Also this means you could cut the Conval budget and Antrim's school taxes could still go up or down depending on what happens to the adequacy grant. Finally I hope you see why the number 221000/1000 is important. You take the value of your property, round off the last three numbers of its assessment, multiply it times the projected increase or decrease, and that will give you an idea of what will happen to your taxes. *If you wish more information on taxes, contact me: 588-2793.* ❁

FRIEND-TO-FRIEND POTLUCK DINNERS ANTRIM BAPTIST CHURCH

There is just something special about a potluck dinner. You never know what you are going to get and it's never the same. But it always promises to be good!

You are invited to a monthly potluck at the Antrim Baptist Church on the first Wednesday of each month at 5:45 p.m. starting this spring. Bring a dish to share. No program, just great food and new friends.

See you on March 5, April 2, May 7. ❁

FESTIVAL OF TREES

Kristy Boule

Packed up for another year, the Festival of Trees committee has had time to reflect on its record-setting season. The Library was filled to the rafters with more than one hundred trees and displays. Especially notable features were the Magic Room, designed by the Library Staff, the Mai Tai Tree, which offered a prize for correctly guessing the number of ties on the tree, and the Book Tree, which showcased miniature childhood favorites. There were trees depicting ears of corn, 3-D handymen, magic men, and the highway department as well as Lego, Knex and handmade mitten and pottery trees. WMUR TV generously reran a NH Chronicle segment taped the previous year and aired small announcements during their holiday broadcasts at the beginning of the Festival.

The November 30th Open House hosted more than 600 visitors—a single day record. Attendance continued brisk throughout the month, with visitors from near and far: community members, extended family and general public alike, topping more than 2000 visitors for the season. The success of the Festival's fourth year which was ultimately due to the involvement of the community: the families, participants and friends that set up trees and displays, loaned artwork, baked goodies or provided refreshment, offered help and brought guests to see Antrim at it's finest. The Antrim Historical Society and Friends of the Library provided unwavering support as did the Staff and Trustees of the Tuttle Library. The committee was humbled by the expressions of gratitude and exclamations of pride in our community. The most rewarding moments were during breakdown when many conversations centered on excited plans for Next Year's tree!

The committee will start meeting in April to officially begin preparing for the 5th annual Festival. There will hopefully be a few new faces to try to compensate for the "retirement" of our original committee person, Missy Taylor, as she moves on to her next adventure. "Many hands make light work" is an appropriate motto for us going forward. The Festival has grown so much that we will be seeking volunteers who can help with different tasks throughout the year or during setup. If you are interested in volunteering, whether it be an hour or two here and there, computer assistance, or helping with a special project, please contact us at info@AntrimFestivalOfTrees.org or 831-1802. ❁

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Eat Out FOR The Grapevine

March 7 • Rick and Diane's Pizzeria, Antrim • All Day

March 16 • Common Place Eatery, Bennington
 Breakfast 7:00–11:00 a.m.

March 23 • Hancock Inn, Hancock • Sunday Dinner

March 27 • Fiddlehead's Cafe, Hancock • All Day

(20% of gross receipts donated to the Grapevine)

BEES

Sheila Nichols

Bees are fascinating, intelligent and instrumental to our very existence. They are disappearing at an alarming rate. This is seemingly good news for those suffering from Apiphobia, a fear of bees, but actually it is very bad. There are many theories as to why they are dying, but no definitive answers. Bill began reading everything he could about bees and admirably convinced me that we needed to add beekeeping to our repertoire.

A hive and all kinds of apparatus were purchased. The next step, order bees. Bill chose a variety of bee and located an apiary. Sometime around 6 pm the phone rang. It was Bill, "Honey, I am on my way home with some bees, ten thousand actually, all in one small screened-in box sitting here on the seat next to me in the truck. Everything is ok; I put the seat belt around the box, only a couple got out and are flying around in the cab. The guy said they are not aggressive. See you soon." Man and bees arrived safely home after dark.

Bee colonies become established over time. Until they find a food source and begin to produce honey, the beekeeper needs to feed them. We set up the hive and prepared some sugary water.

Bill parked the truck headlights facing the hive. I stood camera ready as he suited up, veil, gloves, helmet and jumpsuit. Ten thousand bees is a lot even if they are small creatures. Slowly, Bill turned the box upside down and gently tapped the bees into their new hive.

The queen travels, as a queen should, in her own special container complete with worker bees tending to her every need. Her compartment is hung inside the hive while everyone gets acquainted. The worker bees eventually eat the plug from the opening so they can join the colony and start doing bee things.

Fascinated by all the comings and goings of the bees Bill stationed a campstool next to the hive, and there drinking his morning coffee he would watch them.

The drones have many jobs. Some sit at the entrance and fan their wings to circulate air and keep the hive cool. Some scout for food. Their communication is extraordinary to behold. The bees-to-bees I mean, not Bill and the bees. Scouts perform different maneuvers to tell the rest of the bees where to find food. They use the sun as a compass. Remarkable!

The Scout bees dance the "Round Dance" on the surface of the hive when food is within 50–75 meters. If the food is farther than 75 meters from the hive, they dance the "Waggle Dance."

Bill left for a business trip shortly after the bees' arrival. The dogs and I were left to tend the farm. A gentle July breeze lulled me to sleep that first night. I was wakened by a bang which I dismissed as a door blowing shut and fell back to sleep.

Early next morning our neighbors came to see the new members of our farm. The bang, turns out, was not a slamming door but the sound of the hive being tossed about by a

bear. The bees hadn't been there long enough to make honey yet so she was attracted by the sugar water according to the Fish and Game Warden I called to report the attack.

My neighbor and I exchange a pensive look. We shared a synchronized double take hoping that the 10,000 bees, the hive and all its contents were really still in one piece; nope, that old bear had tossed it. Due to the chilly morning the bees were lethargic and carpeting the ground.

My neighbor was not experienced with animals until we moved in and began our farm. She, bravely offered, "You'll just have to suit up and get those bees back in!" I mentioned the ten thousand part to her and she soldiered on helping with the zippers and Velcro on the beekeeper suit.

My mind's ear heard Bill's voice repeating that bees can sense your fear. Thanks honey.

Surprisingly it wasn't nearly as bad as I had anticipated. I righted the hive and gently scoop up bees with my beekeeper gloves returning them to the hive. I made them a fresh batch of sugar water and secured the hive cover. Gradually the remainder flew back to the hive.

I called Bill to say that I had valiantly earned more than a souvenir tee shirt from his trip. But as it turns out I was rather proud of myself and his accolades were enough.

Once a hive is threatened the bees assume that the queen is somehow responsible and either 'do away with her' or the whole colony swarms.

"Honey bee swarms may contain several hundred to several thousand worker bees, a few drones and one queen. Swarming bees fly around briefly and then cluster on a tree limb, shrub or other object. Clusters usually remain stationary for an hour to a few days, depending on weather and the time needed to find a new nest site by scouting bees. When a suitable location for the new colony, such as a hollow tree, is found the cluster breaks up and flies to it." (1)

We couldn't find the queen. We needed a new one if our colony was to survive. Within a few days the postmaster notified us of the arrival of an overnight package. His voice quivering as he added that it was buzzing. Bill assured him it was safe, just a box of live bees, the new queen and her entourage and that he would be there presently to pick them up.

Over the years our beekeeping knowledge has gotten better and we hope that our bees will help repopulate the species. Some of our colonies have swarmed. Some have stayed on and shared luscious honey.

(1) <http://www.ipm.iastate.edu/ipm/hortnews/node/9>



SAVE THE STEEPLE PROJECT

Charlie Boucher, Pastor

Big changes are coming to the point in downtown Antrim! As you drive downtown and pass the Antrim Baptist Church (ABC) you may have taken in the sight of the tall steeple reaching towards the sky. If you look closely you will see the rotting siding that shows through the fading paint and with x-ray vision you would see the years of rain and snow leaking through the steeple's roof affecting the timbers that are almost 150 years old.

This month ABC launches a community capital campaign to Save the Steeple. The project needs to raise \$30,000. The plan calls for a fundraising effort to conclude by May 15. The contracts are being signed this spring, allowing for the restoration to take place this summer. Plans are for the re-dedication to take place during the weekend of the Home & Harvest Festival this September.

The Antrim Baptist Church exits on a shoe string budget. But has never been deterred from serving the community in lots of quiet ways. The Antrim Bennington Food Pantry which last year provided over 12,000 items of food to over 1,400 local individuals and their families is hosted at the church. The youth group and preschool program serves many of our regions children and a monthly free pancake breakfast feeds hundreds of folks with warm and hearty meals. The outreach ministry's to our community continues through out the year.

The church has been busy raising funds to Save the Steeple: bake sales, selling Christmas trees and solicitation of the church membership. We are very encouraged that we are 50% of the way to our goal! But we still have a way to go. This month the Save The Steeple fund committee will reach out to the greater Antrim community for the final push to complete this important project.

In recognition of the support for this project we have developed a number of ways to highlight your involvement in protecting this treasure. We will permanently acknowledge leadership gifts so we will be mounting a recognition plaque in the entranceway to the church. This recognition will be offered in three categories. Gifts of \$1,000 to \$2499, \$2,500 to \$4,999, and \$5,000 and over. All gifts of \$100 or more will be acknowledged in our church newsletter, which reaches out

to hundreds of people each month and at our dedication ceremony in the fall. Every contribution helps and is appreciated. No amount is too small.

In early March ABC will be mailing additional information about the Save the Steeple effort. In the mean time you can donate online at www.AntrimBaptist.org/make-a-donation. All donations of any size are greatly appreciated as we work to "Save the Steeple" or mail a donation to ABC Steeple Fund, PO Box 206, Antrim, NH 03440. Monitor the progress of the Save the Steeple Fund, check out the virtual Steeple in front of the church. We hope you will be able to join us in restoring the beauty and integrity of the Antrim Baptist Church steeple, the focal of Main Street Antrim. ✨

FRIEND-TO-FRIEND POTLUCK DINNERS

March 5 • April 2 • May 7

5:45 p.m.

Baptist Church

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REMEMBER THE ROUTE MEN (& WOMEN)?

Charles Butterfield

I read recently that grocery chain stores are trying out different methods of delivering their goods to the consumer as an alternative to customers standing in line at the check out. A company called Good Eggs, in San Francisco and in Brooklyn, for instance, brings the locally grown and manufactured foods you order via the web to your door within 48 hours for as little as \$1.99 per order.

That sounds remarkably like the way groceries and other things were marketed, minus the Internet, when I was growing up in Antrim.

Dalt Brooks (for some reason we pronounced his name Delt), was the route man for Coolidge's Red & White grocery store on Main Street. Dalt drove around town one day of the week, say Tuesday, took orders for groceries and then returned a couple of days later with the items. My mother could revise her order any time—add a yeast cake or scratch the baking soda—by telephoning the store before Dalt left to make deliveries. Sounds like Good Eggs to me, except I don't think there was any charge for Dalt's service.

Dalt was not the only route man I remember.

There was the meat man, Mr. Holmes, who butchered pigs, chickens and cattle at his place in North Branch and brought the fresh cuts to houses in town regularly. I remember him for the free, raw hot dogs he handed out. (Why I didn't get trichinosis, I don't know.) There was an iceman, too. We had neighbors who still relied on an icebox. Though we had a refrigerator for home use, we used chunks of ice to keep our dairy products cool. The iceman would pull into the yard when he saw the card bearing a big **I** in our window. Another man peddled Watkins Products (spices and flavorings), and there was even a Fuller Brush man who came to the door once in a while.

The route man I looked forward to most was old Mr. Cohen. He drove a high-wheeled truck, probably from the 1920s, and collected paper, rags and discarded metal. Everybody kept a box or a grain bag for storing the junk and rags Mr. Cohen collected on no regular schedule. It was an occasion when he drove in the yard, partly because he showed up unexpectedly, and partly because he was a Jew and spoke with an

accent. Paying a little something for our junk and sounding unlike our neighbors, I might have called him exotic had I known the word when I was eight.

I came to know the route business intimately. My father was one of two dairy farmers who operated extensive milk routes in Antrim. The other was Myrtie Brooks. Other farmers with a cow or two delivered milk to neighbors, but for a time Byron and Myrtie cornered the milk trade.

Delivering milk during the war years when gasoline was rationed, even for farmers, required some ingenuity. At the time the automobile replaced the horse-drawn buggy, my grandfather disassembled his carriages and stored the parts out of the way on a high loft in the barn. When gas rationing came into play in the 1940s, my father and I brought the buggy parts down, reassembled the carriages, and delivered milk to our closest customers from a two-seated "democrat wagon" drawn by our horse Jerry.

According to his account book, my father, and my mother, too, delivered milk, cream, butter and eggs to 114 Antrim households in 1947, half the customers served one day, the other half the next, in all kinds of weather. We delivered milk by the glass quart bottle for 18 cents. The Campbell Paiges, a big family, took eight quarts every other day. An old bachelor, William Munhall, needed only a quart a week. The record shows that any one family's daily milk consumption was highly consistent.

But milk production in the barn was not. Cows yield milk generously for several months following calving. Every cow goes dry, though, in the months leading up to her yearly "freshening." Of course, the trick is to have this dry period staggered within the herd. A cow is not a predictable machine, however. There were times when my father's cows did not produce all the milk he had contracted to deliver. Sometimes we drank reconstituted powdered milk at home (yuck!) in order that there would be enough real milk for our customers. It was necessary on occasion to buy milk wholesale from another farmer in order to supply our customers. Myrtie, our competitor, helped us out on occasion.

 continued

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I was not involved enough in the diary business to shoulder the worrisome accounting of inflow and outflow. My job was to get the milk, whatever its source, to our customers.

I became a route man myself, making deliveries with one parent or the other on Saturdays or school vacation days. When I turned sixteen and had a license to drive the pickup truck, I ran the routes myself when I could.

Where a customer stayed at home, I could leave the milk on the porch or front steps. But if the house was empty during the day, I had to leave the perishable, raw milk and cream in an insulated box kept in the garage, the woodshed or some other place out of the sun. Some customers left the door unlocked with instructions to put the milk directly in their kitchen refrigerator.

Being a route man on a nice June day was not bad, though there was always something more fun that had to be postponed. Going out on a sleeting January Saturday morning with a miserable sore throat and stuffed sinuses was something else. A route man, like the mailman, has no choice but to go. And no matter what the weather was like, arriving back at the farm with a hundred empty milk bottles to brush scrub and scald was not a happy prospect.

Still, being a route man brought me close to many of the families in town. They depended on me. I was their milkman. I was proud that every bottle I put down was capped with "Byron's & Vera's Butterfield Dairy." (I don't know who came up with that awkward caption.) I learned a little about business and about customer relations, though I never figured out a satisfactory way to remind my customers when their milk bill was past due.

The other day I walked into our pharmacy, a chain store, and saw a hand-lettered sign on the counter. It said, "We Deliver Free." I thought, "Good for you. Welcome to the new old times." ❁

FREE Community Suppers
March 20 • April 17 • May 15
 Presbyterian Church • 5:30 p.m.



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ANTRIM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Thelma Nichols

The New Year has brought about some changes for the AHS Board. Four members have had to resign due to changes in their personal lives: Elizabeth Robertson, Phebe Lewan, Sarah VanderWende and Missy Taylor. All four were dedicated to the Society and worked hard in many capacities to fulfill the purpose of the Society. They will be greatly missed.

Three new members have been appointed to the Board: Sue Conklin, Rick Woods, and Eric Tenney. All three will be a great addition to the Board and have already volunteered to work in their areas of expertise, strengthening our ability to carry on the work of the Society.

Many new items have been added to the historical collection: a crib and playpen manufactured by the Abbott Co. from Ruth Brzozowski Richardson, a school bell from the old high school from Priscilla Chandler Shook, a desk from the same school donated by Susan Chandler Ruess, annual reports and photographs from area historical societies, and a 1945 fuel oil ration coupon issued to Earl Cutter given to Jim Rymes and now passed on to us. We are very thankful for all these contributions.

The opportunity to purchase a collection of old glass plate negatives of Frederick L. Nay, a native son of Antrim and renowned photographer, has been offered the AHS Board. The Society has used these plates in the past in the publication of *Parades and Promenades* and David Hurlin's House Project. The Board is presently researching the collection's value to the AHS collection, its monetary value, how to store it, and how to fund the purchase if it is deemed we should. Advice from experts in this field is being considered. If you have any expertise or interest in this, please be in touch with a Board member.

We continue with the electronic archiving of the Society's collection of Antrim's history under the direction of Board member, Dave Dubois. Sunday afternoon programs have been planned by VP Steve Ullman. On Sunday April 13, Ben Pratt will present *A History of Caughey and Pratt*; Sunday May 18, a NH Humanities Council program, *NH Towns & the Civil War* presentation by Prof. Jere Daniell; and on Sunday June 22, long time summer resident, now full-time resident, Dick Winslow will present *Summering in Antrim*. Many of you were treated to a recent presentation by Prof. Jere Daniell on *The Scots-Irish and Antrim*. More information is available in the calendar section of this *Limrik*. All of these programs should be very interesting so mark your calendars now.

Our annual membership drive is going on now, inviting members to renew and residents and friends who have not joined, to do so now. The Board is looking forward to making our organization stronger and larger this year. We are able to continue to archive and preserve events and artifacts of

✍—continued on page 27

HELPING STUDENTS SUCCEED AT THE CROSSROADS BETWEEN ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOL

Laura Gourlay, School Counselor

As our children make their way from childhood through adolescence and into young adulthood, they will be experiencing social, developmental, and academic changes, and adjusting to new environments and expectations. All this happens during a time when they are also going through the many physical and psychological changes associated with growing up. As they make their way through this sometimes challenging time, the teachers and administration at the ConVal schools work hard to make the transition from elementary to middle school, and then from middle to high school, a smooth passage. We want to make sure our students feel safe in, and excited about, their new schools. Here are the steps we follow to reach that end.

FROM ELEMENTARY TO MIDDLE SCHOOL

When we are preparing to transition students from the elementary schools (Antrim, Bennington, Frankestown, and Hancock) to GBS, we implement a number of transition activities. The Griffins' Nest, a mentoring program where GBS and Antrim Elementary students socialize, is one example of an initiative where we build a bridge between the elementary and middle schools.

A parent orientation evening is held at GBS in the spring. Parents of prospective fifth-grade students are invited to an informational evening where they can tour the school, meet the staff, learn about various enrichment activities, and become familiar with the middle school environment. Shortly thereafter, we have an "Ambassador Day," when fifth-grade representatives from our school travel to the elementary schools and introduce themselves to the incoming students. They bring a video of the highlights of our school to raise awareness and answer questions so the students feel more comfortable with the upcoming transition. Next, a field day and picnic is organized for the students from all four sending schools, so they can meet each other. This provides the students with an opportunity to continue to develop a positive attitude about the upcoming change. Finally, we hold a "Fly Up" Day in early June, when the incoming fifth-grade students spend a day at our school, interacting with the soon-to-be sixth grade students, meeting their new teachers, and engaging in team-building activities.

Gathering information about incoming students is also critical for us so that we can arrange for appropriate placement in advisories (or homerooms) and gain an understanding of their personalities and personal circumstances. We ask the fourth grade teachers and elementary school counselors to provide "fly up" information that will inform us about each student's strengths and challenges, their relationships with others, their work ethic, and any other personal insights the elementary school feels would be relevant. We also encourage parents to let us know of any particular preferences or issues that would

influence their child's placement in an advisory. The counselors from the elementary school meet with me to share additional background information on the students, to provide additional details on family dynamics, and to relate any past and ongoing social or emotional issues.

All this preparation should help the new students – and the fifth grade teaching team at GBS – be well prepared for the transition. It is good to remember that this important change is happening during their transition into adolescence, so the process can still prove to be challenging for some students.

FROM MIDDLE TO HIGH SCHOOL

When students are finishing their 8th grade year, we also put a carefully thought-out process in place to support them as they make their way to the high school. The school counseling departments at the middle and high schools, along with administration, come together to review the past year's transition process with the idea of implementing successful processes again, and adjusting any process that needs revision due to changes in curriculum, class size, etc. Teachers from the 8th and 9th grade teams meet to shape the program of studies that will be available to freshmen.

Sharing information with parents and students is critical to the success of the transition. ConVal hosts a parent information night in early February, inviting parents to come to the school to meet the principal and director of counseling and find out what academic, athletic and extracurricular opportunities are available to students.

Once the program of studies is in place, the ConVal counselors travel to Great Brook and South Meadow to present to the 8th graders, and provide them with the same information about academics, sports and the wide variety of enrichment activities in which they can participate. Middle school counselors then meet with each 8th grade student individually to register them for their required core courses as well as electives such as music, art, languages, technology, and more.

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Registration forms go home for review and approval by parents, and once all the students have registered, the information goes up to the high school to be put into the master database.

On another date, the students are invited to tour ConVal so that they can familiarize themselves with the building and meet prospective teachers. There is also a "Just for Freshmen Day" that is held the day before school officially starts; freshmen are greeted on the red carpet by upperclassmen, have another chance to tour the building and practice class changes, and have a barbeque on campus to mix and mingle. By the time they experience their first full day as a freshman, they should feel prepared to be a part of ConVal High, a community dedicated to learning, thinking and growing.

Caring and committed teachers, a sense of excitement about the opportunities to come, and a feeling of engagement with their new school will help students feel prepared. The more comfortable a student is with their new school before they start attending, the easier it should be for them to make a successful transition. If you have any questions about the elementary to middle or middle to high school transition process, please feel free to contact Laura Gourlay, Great Brook School Counselor, at 588-6630 x6003 or email lgourlay@conval.edu. ❀

TUTTLE LIBRARY NEWS

Melissa Lawless and Lynne Lawrence

IMPORTANT DATES

April 13–19 National Library Week & Teen Literature Week

Monday May 26 Memorial Day - closed

PROGRAMS

- Sat. March 1 Dr. Seuss' Birthday Celebration
- Sat. March 1 Teen Tech Tutors 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
- Sat. March 8 Teen Tech Tutors 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
- Tues. March 11 Reading with Mozart the Therapy Dog 6:30–7:30 p.m.
- Sat. March 15 Teen Tech Tutors 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
- Sat. March 22 Teen Tech Tutors 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
- Tues. April 8 Reading with Mozart the Therapy Dog 6:30–7:30 p.m.
- Sat. April 19 Drop-In Easter Craft 11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
- Sat. May 10 Train Day @ Your Library
- Tues. May 13 Reading with Mozart the Therapy Dog 6:30–7:30 p.m.

A SNEAK PEEK AT THE SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Readers of all ages will explore all things fizzing, popping, and booming with our Summer Reading Program "Fizz, Boom, Read!" during their summer library program. Activities may include science experiments, a bit of Grossology fun, nature explorations and more. The 2014 Summer Reading Program is open to young people, preschool through young adult, with programs, prize drawings, and storytimes.

A DR. SEUSS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Join us as we celebrate the birthday of Dr. Seuss (his actual date of birth is March 2nd, 1904). There will be story time, crafts and cupcakes! Certain that the reason "why Johnny can't read" was that children's books were just too boring, the creativity of Dr. Seuss inspired the imaginations of people of all ages. Using his birthday March 3rd as a kick off date for the annual national "Read Across America" campaign, this year **Sink Your Teeth Into a Good Book** leads with the slogan: "You're never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read with a child."

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

April 13–19, the Tuttle Library joins libraries in schools, campuses and communities nationwide in celebrating National Library Week, a time to highlight the value of libraries and their librarians. Today, libraries are more than repositories for books and magazines. Often the hearts of the community, libraries are deeply committed to the places where their patrons live, work and study. Libraries are trusted places where everyone in the community can gather to reconnect with each other to enrich and shape the community and address local issues.

 continued on page 28

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CHURCH NEWS

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SUNDAY WORSHIP • 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School • 10:30 a.m. every Sunday
Communion Service is the 1st Sunday of the month

March 2, April 6, May 4 • 5:30 p.m. • Celtic Evensong

March 5 • 6:30 p.m. • Ash Wednesday Service

April 13 • 10:30 a.m. • Palm/Passion Sunday Service

April 17 • 6:30 p.m. • Maundy Thursday Service

April 18 • 6:30 p.m. • Good Friday Service

April 20 • 6:30 a.m. • Easter Morning Sunrise Service

Ecumenical service on Presbyterian church lawn
led by Baptist Church Pastor Charles Boucher

April 20 • 10:30 a.m. • Easter Service

The Revival Shop sells consigned and donated clothing
and is always looking for volunteers. Donations and
consignments greatly appreciated.

BAPTIST CHURCH

588-6614

PASTOR CHARLES V. BOUCHER

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 a.m.

March 5, April 2, May 7 • 5:45 p.m.

Friend-to-Friend Potluck Dinners

March 16, April 13, May 18 • 8:30–10:00 a.m.

Free Pancake Breakfasts

March 19, March 26, April 2, April 9 • 12 noon

Lenten Luncheon (bring bag lunch)

April 20 • 6:30 a.m. • Easter Morning Sunrise Service

Ecumenical service on Presbyterian church lawn
led by Baptist Church Pastor Charles Boucher

April 20 • 10:30 a.m. • Easter Service

CHURCH OF CHRIST

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY • 10:00 a.m.

SUNDAY SERVICE • 11:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY • 7:00 p.m.



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CIRCLE OF STRENGTH MILITARY MOMS

Susan Ellsworth

The Circle of Strength Military Moms and Family Members Support Group would like to thank local people and companies for their donations to sending care packages to our local troops for Christmas. With your generous donations we shipped 15 boxes to former Conval students and a few other local troops. I want to especially thank Kathi Wasserloos at Great Brook School who coordinated teachers and students in writing letters and making many wonderful handmade cards for the troops. I received "Thank You" letters from the troops and was told that they passed the cards and letters around so their entire platoon got to read them on Christmas Eve. This project let them know that people at home were thinking of them and were proud and thankful for their services. It was an honor to be a part of this wonderful event, and I hope to continue doing it as long as our children, family members, and friends in the military are protecting us here at home. Thank you also to the caring ladies who belong to the Circle of Strength Military Moms & Family Members Support Group for all their hard work in helping to make this idea happen.

If you would like to join our group or know of a troop you would like us to send a care package to, please email me at ellsworthsusan@gmail.com.

Thank you all again. ❁

Antrim's past and present and provide programs throughout the year only through the volunteer and financial support that we receive from you.

In setting the budget for 2014, the Board has made decisions that will change the way we have been communicating with the membership. Many of you have commented on your pleasure with the newsletter that we started this past year. The first two issues were mailed through the USPO Door-to-Door program. This was a costly endeavor and did not achieve the additional interest we hoped to gain. We will go forward with the AHS newsletter, but it will be mailed only to members and donors so if you enjoyed the AHS newsletter, please join us now. Another change will be the announcements of our programs. We will no longer be mailing post cards for every program as in the past. Programs will be listed in the newsletter and we will still use the local newspapers to promote these programs. We also hope to be able to send monthly information via email. This will require that you provide us with your email address if you would like this service.

These changes were made to save money, necessitated by the fact that we have a budget shortfall this year. Fundraising last year fell short of previous years, and we are considering what our major fundraiser will be this year. The Apple Crisp at Home and Harvest has been our biggest fundraiser for the past three years, but we did not realize as high a return last year. Our other main fundraisers are memberships and donations.

The Board wishes to thank all of you who have generously given of your time, talents, and donations to help AHS remain financially independent from the Town and able to continue to preserve Antrim's past and present. For more information on how you can help, please contact a board member or Thelma Nichols at tnichols@mcttelecom.com. ❁

THREE ANTRIM SENIORS WIN NHIAA AWARD

Three Antrim students were among 18 ConVal seniors who were awarded the New Hampshire Scholar Athlete Award on February 15. They are Jesse Edwards, Tyler Aborn and Zoe Paige. The award is presented by the New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association to high school seniors who maintain a high scholastic rating and who participated in at least two sports.

The seniors must meet the following qualifications to receive the award:

- Maintain at least a B+ average.
- Have participated in two sports for at least two years.
- Have received varsity letters in two sports.
- Have been nominated by the High School Athletic Administrator/Director.
- Be a positive role model who has done community service.

Congratulations to all! ❁



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EXPECT WONDERS

“I have great faith in a seed. Convince me that you have a seed there, and I am prepared to expect wonders.”

Henry David Thoreau

Following in Thoreau’s footsteps, Tuttle Library will join the new and rapidly growing seed saving movement. This spring patrons will be able to “check out” vegetable, flower and herb seeds to plant at home, enjoy the produce, and save a few seeds to bring back to the library for next year. Over time we will be able to save for our children some of the best open-pollinated and heirloom varieties that might otherwise disappear. In addition to seeds we’ll provide information on planting, harvesting and preserving seeds. Please stop in this spring to help us “grow” our seed lending library.

AUTHOR FOCUS

We Say Goodbye to...

The year just past seemed a particularly sad one for the literary community as we lost some of our most popular and prolific authors: **Vince Flynn, Tom Clancy, the Rev. Andrew Greeley, Elmore Leonard, Michael Palmer**, and in the children’s department, **Barbara Park** and **E.L. Konigsburg** were among them. It was my intention to pick one and write a short biography until I became fascinated by the sheer facts. Between them, these seven authors have contributed an astonishing three hundred and sixty-three works of fiction and nonfiction to the world of books.

They attended such prestigious schools as Wesleyan, the Carnegie Institute of Technology, Case Western Reserve, and Loyola. Only two (Park and Leonard) set out to be writers; the rest were real estate agents, Catholic priests, medical doctors, chemists, college professors, and insurance agents – they held everyday, demanding jobs like the rest of us but stayed up late or got up early to put pen to paper and, in their own ways, through their own words, to change the world. Many of their works won awards. Many became popular films. Many added to the general public’s awareness of such varied areas as the Catholic Church, the US military and the world of counterintelligence.

Whether you choose to read in their genres or not, the passing of such prolific and well-regarded authors cannot be anything but a loss to the world of books, but their accomplish-

ments cannot help but be inspirational. All of these authors are popular in the Antrim community. Their work is well represented in the Tuttle Library and we hope you will drop by, pick up their books, and help keep their legacy alive by enjoying the stories they have left us.

People say “I could never be a writer because my life is so boring. I wouldn’t have anything to write about.” Definitely not the case with **Mary Pope Osborne** who has camped in a cave on Crete, traveled overland in a rickety caravan through Pakistan, India, and Nepal, survived a riot in Kabul and an earthquake in northern Afghanistan, and spent two weeks recovering from food poisoning in a hospital in Kathmandu. She has worked as a bartender, a window dresser, a Russian travel consultant, and a medical assistant. “So” said Osborne, “I decided to be a writer when I grew up.”

Now, thirty years later, she has written more than a hundred books and is best known for the children’s series, *The Magic Tree House*, in which her young heroes, Jack and Annie, survive an earthquake, travel by rickety caravan . . . well, you get the picture. Osborne has found the perfect writer’s device, the tree house, which allows her to travel anywhere in time and space, and, as she puts it, still be home for dinner.

Osborne’s books have sold more than 120 million copies, have been translated into 32 languages. She has received honors from the National Council of Teachers, the American Booksellers Association, and a Lifetime Achievement Award from Random House. Osborne is widely credited with instilling a love of reading in the 10-years-and-under set, and fortunately the fun, fast-paced, and just a little scary, books are also entertaining for adults to read to younger kids.

In addition to the *Tree House* series, Osborne has written a book on world religions, several volumes retelling Greek myths, and is currently working on a series based on Homer’s *Odyssey*. A talented and versatile writer, her joy in her chosen profession is obvious. You will find the *Magic Tree House* series and companion volumes in the children’s room at The Tuttle Library—stop in and enjoy a little magic. ✨



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ANTRIM GRANGE NEWS

Arthur and Beth Merrill

The 2nd annual Ukulele Fest was held October 5 with over 120 in attendance. Brian Murphy and the Ukulele Society of Antrim (USA), Anna Murphy, and the Ladies Auxiliary Ukulele Orchestra performed.

At the annual State Grange session, Antrim Grange was well represented. Antrim's own Lyman Gilmore was presented with the Community Citizen of the Year award. Carryl Davis was honored with the Active Military Person of the Year. Our Grange was awarded fourth place for our community service efforts and was recognized for having achieved a net gain in membership for the second year in a row. Beth Merrill was re-elected to the State Grange Executive Committee. Dawne Hugron, Sharon Stickney, Jeanne and Steve Frizzell received the Sixth Degree. Beth Merrill and Sharon Stickney both had winning contest entries selected to be sent on to the National Grange Convention for display in the Best of Show exhibit. Davi Penny and Adam and Bob Paquin Varnum were members of the team when the Youth Officers opened the session.

The 147th National Grange Session was held at the Radisson hotel in Manchester in November (the first time held in NH since the 47th convention in 1913). Antrim Grange was prominent in many aspects of the convention! Beth served as the Northeast Region convention coordinator and also completed her duties as a National officer, the Lady Assistant

Steward, and served on the Audit and Budget Committee. Arthur Merrill was one of New Hampshire's two voting delegates, served on the Grange Law Committee, and was a cast member for the Seventh Degree. Gloria Davis was Co-chair of the Hospitality Committee, and Adam served on the Transportation Committee. Antrim Grange was recognized as a Distinguished Grange, one of two from NH and one of 51 across the nation and was also listed among the 427 Granges that achieved a net gain in membership. Beth, Adam, and Bob all had roles in the Sixth Degree. Davi participated in the youth events during the convention and represented the Northeast Region with her winning public speaking entry during the Evening of Excellence. She also was a Trumpet Girl during the conferral of the Seventh Degree. Antrim Grange had six members who received the Seventh Degree: Dawne, Jeanne and Steve, Sharon, Adam and Davi. Sharon's beautiful knitted sweater and quilt block and Beth's mosaic glass wall-hanging were exhibited in the Idea Fair.

The week after the National Convention, we were back to work at home. Members made ornaments for our "How Sweet It Is" Festival of Trees entry and were proud to participate in this great town event for the fourth year. We also held our annual cookie decorating session and donated the results of those efforts to the Antrim Rec department for the Antrim Tree Lighting event. Antrim Grange served as the "animal wranglers" for the Night In Bethlehem event at the Baptist Church. A delicious potluck supper preceded our December meeting, during which we collected non-perishable items that were donated to the Antrim Food Pantry and conducted a lively gift exchange.

In January, Arthur, Beth, Adam and Gloria traveled to Warwick, RI to attend the Northeast Leaders' Conference. Workshops on teamwork, membership, and fund raising were presented, plans for upcoming regional events were made, and annual reports of the New England Grange Building trustees and Northeast Connection were given. This conference will be held in New Hampshire next year.

WINTER PROGRAM MEETINGS

All our meetings and programs are at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Antrim Grange has planned a year-long series of educational programs to encourage Healthy Living. Kin Schilling, founder of the Cornucopia Project brought a slide show and gave an update on the goals and accomplishments of her fantastic organization at the January meeting. We all were in agreement that the educational opportunities provided by the Cornucopia Project are invaluable to the students who are fortunate enough to attend the schools that participate and support this curriculum.

Our February program, featuring NH author and humorist, Rebecca Rule, took place after this publication's dead-

 continued on page 30

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line, so a report of her program “Moved and Seconded: Town Meeting in NH”, made possible through a grant by the NH Humanities Council will be included in the June Limrik. Undoubtedly, we can report at this time that it will have been a fun night of Healthy Laughter! The March program meeting at the Town Hall will highlight the topic of Healthy Food and proper nutrition, speaker to be announced. In April, we should be back to meeting at the Grange Hall. Healthy Soils will be the focus of the April 16 program, with Mike Lombard from Ideal Compost as the speaker. And finally, for this reporting period, we would invite anyone interested in celebrating and thanking those outstanding individuals who work so diligently to create a Healthy Community in which we can live, by attending our annual Community Awards Night on May 21st. If you have someone you’d like to nominate as a possible recipient, please send the person’s name and short write-up as to why you think they should be recognized and submit it to Antrim Grange Secretary, Adam Paquin Varnum, 104 Dodge Road, Bennington, NH 03442 by April 1.

SERVICE PROJECTS

We have a Meet the Candidates Night planned for February 26, so hopefully this event was not intercepted by Old Man Winter, as in the previous couple of years. If so, the snow date is March 5. Grange members helped out at the Avenue A Teen Center on Valentine’s Day by providing an opportunity for the youth to decorate their own valentine cookies. We are looking forward to a monthly commitment of interacting with and engaging the young people who frequent that venue with Grange-sponsored activities. Next up on our calendar is the March 20th Community Supper, which will be prepared and served by Antrim Grange.

OTHER NEWS

You can learn more about the Grange and enjoy a mix of old and contemporary music at *GrangeRadio.org*. Any artist not already on our mailing list who is interested in exhibiting their work at our 12th Annual Community Art Show to be held June 13-15 should contact the Grange Secretary at the address above. ✿

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IRS-certified tax preparer Larry Schwartz is providing free tax preparation at The Grapevine on Mondays from 3–6:00 p.m. through April 14. All returns will be filed electronically. Call The Grapevine now for your appointment.

Eat Out for The Grapevine in March! Four generous local restaurants, with Rick and Diane’s taking the lead, are once again donating 20% of their gross receipts on their “Eat Out” day:

- Rick and Diane’s • All day Friday, March 7
- The Common Place • Sunday Breakfast 7–11:00 a.m. March 16
- The Hancock Inn • Sunday Dinner, March 23
- Fiddlehead’s • All day Thursday, March 27

Please support The Grapevine by enjoying a meal!

SPRING WALK FOR FAMILIES SATURDAY MAY 10

Tune up your strollers, lace up your walking shoes and get your pledges for The Grapevine’s 10th Annual *Spring Walk for Families* on Saturday May 10. Our Parent Events Committee is planning a very special event this year, including a cook out after the walk! This is The Grapevine’s biggest fundraiser and we count on your support, so please call 588-2620 or stop by to get your pledge sheet. And then meet us in The Grapevine parking lot at 9:30 a.m. on May 10 to register and walk in support of our families and community.

Coming soon.... Black Fly Community Art Show, Saturday, June 7 10:00–12:00 p.m. featuring multi-media 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.

WORKSHOPS AND PARENTING EDUCATION

Confident Parents – Remarkable Kids Thursdays, March 6, 13, 20, 27 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. A parent discussion based on Bonnie Harris’ book of the same name. The group, facilitated by Carol Lunan, will read selections from the book and discuss. **\$45 per person.** Sorry no childcare. Registration required—payment due at registration, let us know if this is a hardship.

Big Bold Grown-up Paint Camp Saturday, May 31st from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Be prepared to get messy and laugh a lot. No painting experience necessary! \$50 per person. Early Childhood professionals receive staff development hours/certificate. Says one past camper, “*Paint Camp was a total escape from the everyday, the type that takes you into a different place (kind of like getting deep into a really good book and forgetting that it’s 2:00 a.m. and you really should have gone to bed hours ago)!.*” Registration required—payment due at registration, let us know if this is a hardship.

Sysetmatic Training for Effective Parenting for parents of children under six Wednesdays, March 19 & 26 and April 2 & 9 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. **STEP** is a great core-

continued

parenting workshop facilitated by Ann Falby, a veteran educator, parent and grandparent with over 30 years of experience. Says Ann, *"This is one parenting class I highly recommend. The principles and skills I learned when I started teaching STEP have become core to my own parenting and other relationships."* Participants learn listening and communication skills aimed at helping to enhance their child's self-esteem and self-motivation, and practice using logical and natural consequences and modeling for their children how to express feelings in a respectful way. Certificate of completion available. \$50 includes the workbook and pizza dinner. Registration and pre-payment required, let us know if the fee is a hardship. Child care *may be* available—please let us know if you need it!

Spring Cleaning? Grapevine parents are collecting new and gently-used items for the annual Learning Vine yard sale. All proceeds support the preschool and make it possible to provide scholarships. Call Carol or Beth if you have a donation.

Thinking about preschool this fall? Now is the time to visit The Learning Vine!

Our Backyard Summer Adventures – it's not too early to think summer activities for your child. The Grapevine staff is planning now – call for more information.

- Summer Parent-Child Groups for toddlers to age 5 years – July and August
- Backyard Adventures: 4 ½ to 6 year olds – 2 one-week sessions, July 21-25 & July 28-August 1
- Backyard Science Camp: 7 to 9 year olds – August 4-8

THANK YOU...

Thank you to our wood bank volunteers and donors, it was a tough winter but your labor and generosity supplied us with a record amount of wood! Thanks to our newest volunteer, **Mike Frosch**, who helped **Wayno** deliver a load of wood to some grateful neighbors. **Our thanks to the many other volunteers** who gave their time at The Grapevine this winter, at the Teen Center and in our parent-child programs (we're so grateful to **Linda Bryer**), and of course our Parent Events Committee and Fancy Schmancy Tea Party creator **Sadie Cahoon!** Last but not least, many thanks to **Sue and John Conklin** for the near-new matching love seats and beautiful coffee table for our parent meeting room, and to the countless people who donate office supplies, art and craft supplies, and so much more that help us to make ends meet.

SERVICES AT THE GRAPEVINE

Information & Referral: Information about area resources for financial assistance, food, childcare, legal assistance, clothing, health and dental care, and other needs.

Community Wood Bank: For those who use wood to heat their home and can't afford to buy it. The wood bank has also helped residents who typically can buy their own wood but find themselves in a bind due to major ice and snow storms. Call to donate or volunteer for the 2014-15 heating season.

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

Child & Family Counseling by Monadnock Family Services

Family Conflict Resolution offered by Milford Area Mediation Services.

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

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

Visitation Site for noncustodial parents and their children.

The Grapevine is a nonprofit service organization located behind the Tuttle Library and serving residents in Antrim, Hancock, Bennington, Frankestown and nearby towns. Other programs include the **Before and After School Clubs** and **Avenue A Teen Center**. For more information call 588-2620. The Grapevine exists because of charitable contributions from people like you. No amount is too small—or too big! Tax deductible contributions are gratefully accepted at PO Box 637, Antrim, or drop by the center at 4 Aiken Street (behind the library).

And don't forget...you can now visit us on our website www.GrapevineNH.org and Friend Us on Facebook! ☀



Left to right: Corey Guzman, Antrim; Dylan Seavey, Antrim; Ryan Tatro, Bennington; Kendra Beaumont, Antrim; Beatrice Robblee Antrim; Natalie Preble, Antrim

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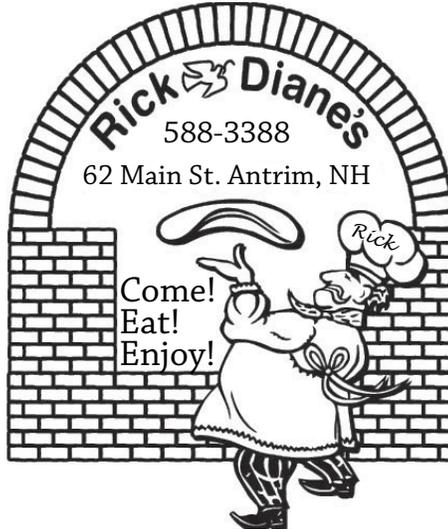
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