

The Limrik

A Quarterly Journal

For, by and about the people of Antrim.

Vol. 24 #2
March 2015

DONNA HANSON, ANTRIM TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Lyman Gilmore

"I'm from Houston, Texas. I'm a southern girl." Donna's smile lit up the room.

Their loss, our gain, I'd say.



In the early 1980s Donna Hanson and her husband Eric left Texas for Massachusetts where he had a new job as a Financial Planner. Before they moved to Antrim in 2003—"when our youngest daughter went away to college"—Donna worked for two community newspapers in central Massachusetts, officially running the sales department, but actually handling just about everything because it was a small office. One of her tasks there was creating and maintaining a website, and that experience was responsible for her first job in Antrim when she was hired to assist Town Clerk/Tax Collector Marita Hammond with our website. When Marita became ill, Donna took over as Town Clerk/Tax Collector while continuing to run the website. Current Town Clerk Diane Chauncey says that Donna is a technology whiz, a distinct advantage in today's digital world.

Donna moved up from Antrim's Town Clerk to Town Administrator in December, and already she has things under control. Asked what she likes best about her new job: "Seeing the whole picture,

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NOTICE

Special Meeting on GBS Closing March 4, at 7:00 p.m.

Informational meeting on the closing of GBS Wednesday, March 4, at 7:00 p.m. in the Antrim Town Hall, sponsored by the Select Board with Antrim's Conval School Board members present to answer questions.

HERE WE GO AGAIN: CLOSING GREAT BROOK SCHOOL

Eric Tenney

As I'm sure you must know, there is a petitioned article in the Conval Warrant (Article 8) to close Great Brook Middle School. Representatives of several smaller towns in the District are claiming that over \$1,000,000-\$1,700,000 will be saved by Great Brook's closure. According to them, these savings will be realized by staff reductions and reducing overhead costs. They are also assuming that the school board will move the 5th grade in Great Brook back to the elementary schools if they do not fit in South Meadow. If that does not work, the 6th grade would be moved back. What they are assuming is that South Meadow and the elementary schools can take an additional 250+ students without any additional cost or effects on student learning. If you believe any of this we've got another one for you. At least this time the idea of closing elementary schools would be considered if Article 9 is voted in.

What is driving this petition is the fear of small school closures. We do believe that towns should have their own elementary schools, and that was the

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VOTE • MARCH 10

Town Hall 8:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.

TOWN MEETING • MARCH 12

Town Gym 7:00 p.m.

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The Limrik was founded November 1991 by Beverly Tenney, Lois Harriman, and Nancy Timko. It is published quarterly: March, June, September, and December and is delivered free to every mail address in Antrim.

— SUBSCRIPTIONS —

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

Advertising copy is due February 10, May 10, August 10, and November 10. Ad content is subject to approval by the Managing Editor and the Advertising Manager.

For more information and specifications on sizes, contact Ral Burgess at: 588-6650 or ralb@tds.net.

— NEWS DEADLINE —

All news copy is due by February 10, May 10, August 10, and November 10. Please email your article to Lyman Gilmore at: lyman-gil@comcast.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 85, Antrim, NH 03440 or by email to Lyman Gilmore at: lyman-gil@comcast.net.

— CREDITS —

Photos courtesy of Lyman Gilmore, Frank and Joan Gorga

Donna Hanson continued from page 1

being part of everything that is going on.” And the biggest challenges? “Helping everyone stay on budget. And I miss seeing the public as much as I did all day as Town Clerk.”

When she’s not working, Donna is a late-onset athlete, golfing, running, and skiing, starting just three years ago. “I love golf, and I’m in the Women’s League at Angus Lea in Hillsborough.” A regular runner now, she began walking in 2013, at first just down the hill from their house on Pierce Lake Road, and then gradually walking longer, and then jogging. “When I finished running my first two-mile loop, I was thrilled!” She began skiing at Crotched the same time she took up golf and running, but with the considerable demands of her new job, she doesn’t have time for it any more. (When she made an appointment for our interview one Friday in January, I said the Town Hall is closed and you don’t work on Friday. “Not anymore,” she declared.)

Asked what makes her especially happy, Donna didn’t hesitate: “Our three grown daughters, and our two grandchildren!” ■

Registration Deadline Baseball and Softball March 13

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MEET THE CANDIDATES FOR SELECT BOARD



MICHAEL GENEST

My name is Michael Genest. I am running for re-election for Selectman. I have been a Selectman for the last thirteen years, and have worked at Monadnock Paper Mill for thirty-six years.

During my thirteen years as Selectman, I have participated in a number of major projects, starting with the bridge replacement program that has replaced six bridges in town. I was also involved in the addition to the Library, the new police station, and the purchase of the Steels Pond Gravel Pit.

I have served on the Planning Board a number of times as the ex-officio member for the Selectmen, on the Parks and Recreation Commission, and the Selectmen's Advisory Committee for Conval. I have also been a member of the Recreation Land Search committee.

Recently, the Board of Selectmen signed a one-year lease on a Solar Array at the Water & Sewer plant. You will see a warrant article at Town Meeting to extend this to twenty years with two five-year extensions. This will net the Town approximately a quarter of a million dollars over the first 20 years of the lease.

I have been involved with the proposed wind farm project from the beginning. At this point, the NH Site Evaluation Committee (SEC) has to decide if they will take jurisdiction

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JEANNE CAHOON

Sixteen years ago, my husband and I put roots down in Antrim because of its great community feeling. I spent many of those enjoyable years getting to know the hard working families of our community while working and volunteering in our local school system, and attending many local functions and celebrations. With all the experiences I have had in the Antrim community, I have learned that working together will always be important to me. I feel that everyone has something helpful to share in any situation. This is what makes our community great! I would like to have a direct experience in helping to maintain the town we live in and love. I want to make sure that in the future our town still emanates the togetherness that drew us to move here. I am asking for your support as I run for Select Board. I would like to be in a position to hear issues that community members feel will have an impact on their town. I will come onto the board with unbiased opinions, an open mind, and a willingness to make educated choices on any topic on the table. I understand that every choice the Select Board makes will impact each member of our diverse community differently, not just today, but for many years to come. For this reason I will make it a point to focus on making good choices! 



BOB HOLMES

My name is Bob Holmes and I am hoping for your support as I run for a position on the Select Board. I moved to Antrim in 1988 when I became the Antrim Postmaster. I worked for the United States Postal Service for over thirty years and am now retired. My two sons were both raised in Antrim and attended Antrim Elementary, GBS and Conval, and my wife Denise is currently a Rural Letter Carrier working out of the Antrim Post Office. I have served on numerous boards and committees in Antrim, such as, Parks and Recreation Committee, Master Plan Committee, Capital Improvement Committee, and this past year was an alternate on the Planning Board. Last year I led the "Back roads and Cellar Holes Program," I also worked on the Limrik staff when it first started. I am currently active coaching youth sports, and I am also a certified New Hampshire Football Official.

My focus for this election is the long-term financial health of Antrim. We have several issues facing us, including the status of our local schools as many try to close GBS, and we have several costly projects ahead of us. One main area of concern is the PILOT agreement we currently have with Antrim Wind Energy. I believe it just barely covers the town for normal issues but does not sufficiently cover

 — continued on page 4

MIKE GENEST

over the project. If not, it could come back to the town to decide. I went through the SEC process three years ago, and I believe my experience would be helpful to the Town.

Recently the Board of Selectmen voted to extend the payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) agreement for the proposed wind farm for two years. I was the only selectman who voted against the PILOT extension. I felt that extending the PILOT was a decision that should have been made after a public hearing was held.

With the current School warrant article to close Great Brook School, I feel the Board of Selectmen needs to work closely with our School Board to do what is best for the students and taxpayers.

The town has recently promoted Donna Hanson as Town Administrator. I have worked with the previous four Town Administrators, and I believe my long experience would be beneficial.

In closing, I ask for your support, and together let's continue to keep Antrim a great place to live. ■

BOB HOLMES

the town for the following: decommissioning costs, DRA actual taxation for school purposes, and large expenses the town might incur in the future. I have picked these areas of concern based on what other towns do with their PILOT agreements. Before AWE gets authorization to erect these windmills, let's insure that the town has an agreement in place that protects the town. I believe the town needs to band together and invite AWE back to the table to amend our current PILOT. We have been very supportive of AWE, and now it is their turn to show us how much they appreciate our support. All these items will cost very little in actual dollars to AWE if their estimates are accurate. If both parties go back to the table with open minds, I believe we can craft another agreement that will not tie AWE's hands but will protect the town against future costs. ■

✗ VOTE • MARCH 10 ✗
Town Hall 8:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.

intent when Conval was established. Several of the small schools have low student counts reflecting the diminished student population. These are the schools that feed the middle schools. They fear that the Articles of Agreement may be modified to allow their consolidation closing some of the small schools. They feel that closing Great Brook will take the pressure off closing small schools

How should Antrim react?

1. If you vote yes you might save \$25-\$75 depending on the value of your house.
2. If you vote yes you will spend more money for gasoline going to middle school events than you saved in taxes.
3. If you vote yes Conval "may" move AES over to Great Brook and turn AES and Antrim Gym back to the town. Remember CONVAL only leases AES and Antrim Gym from the town. If it is no longer used for education and recreation, it automatically returns to the town. This will cost the town money to maintain so your taxes will go up.
4. If you vote yes and the 5th and maybe the 6th grades are moved back to the elementary schools, the opportunities afforded middle school students will be diminished, or if offered, will cost more than at present so your taxes will go up.
5. If you vote yes Great Brook's closure would also impact local business sales.

I hope I have given you enough reasons to vote "no" on this article. Antrim has an excellent chance to defeat this. If we show up and vote 800-1000 no votes I doubt it will pass. It's up to the voters, and Antrim can control its own destiny in CONVAL. Incidentally the school board voted not to recommend this petition, and the school board chairman said he was against Article 8.

In the 2013 Warrant the School Board presented its own version of a way to close schools (Article 7). It was a much more reasoned approach to the problem. No individual school is targeted. What they did was set up a series of parameters that if a particular school falls below those parameters the Board with a 2/3 vote can ask the District voters to close that school which would also require a 2/3 vote to pass. If schools need to be closed, this seems a much better way. This idea did receive a majority vote, but not the required two thirds

This issue is not going away. The obvious underlying problem is how do you control cost of education with a shrinking student population that at this point seems to have leveled off? There are other ways to address this issue. What you have to decide is the present way of operating the district with each town having its own elementary school, two middle schools in Antrim and Peterborough, and one high school giving students what they need. If you change that formula, will our students receive the same quality education? ■

HYDRO POWER COMES BACK TO ANTRIM

Lyman Gilmore

In January Antrim's Steels Pond Hydro Power began producing electricity after a year of construction. This is the first of two, possibly three, renewable energy sources that may become active in town, including the New Hampshire Solar Garden and Antrim Wind.

This hydro project harks back to the water-powered mills along Great Brook and North Branch that made Antrim an industrial center in the 18th and 19th centuries and drove our prosperity and increased our population.

In early February, one of the hydro plant owners—Lori Barg—invited me to tour the facility, and I met her down a long snow-covered road along the stream flowing from the dam at the east end of Steels Pond where Elm Avenue meets Route 9. Speaking loudly against the considerable noise of the machinery's operation, she introduced me to her crew: Antrim's Keith Wood who lives near the plant and is its Operator, Master Electrician Marc Aucoin from Henniker who co-owns the facility with Lori, his son Reuven also from Henniker, and Tim Taylor from Enfield who has more than forty years in hydro-power production.

Steels Pond Hydro is a complete reconstruction of a former 750 Kilowatt hydro plant on the site that has been inoperative for years. It has a 1700-foot long penstock that is seven feet in diameter, dropping almost eighty-five feet from the state-owned Steels Pond dam to the plant. The penstock feeds water into a huge tank or "manifold" in the plant, which in turn releases water that powers five hydraulically controlled turbines. These spinning turbines are attached to generators producing electricity that is fed to a transformer and then into the PSNH grid. The whole operation is controlled automatically by an intricate system of electrical panels, switches, circuit breakers, and computers using more than eight thousand feet of wire.

Lori Barg, whose home is in Plainfield, Vermont, is a Geologist and Hydrologist who owns another hydro plant in Contoocook. She hopes to work with the Board of Selectmen on a PILOT (Payment In Lieu of Taxes) agreement

similar to the PILOT reached with the former operator. They are seeking customers to whom they can sell electricity. Currently PSNH is purchasing the power. ■



Left to right: Marc Aucoin, Reuven Aucoin, Lori Barg

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Christine Patten who tended bar at Rynborn for many years died unexpectedly and way too young in 2010. In 2012 we had our first Chris' Concert outdoors at Granite Gorge. It was a great success and we were able to raise \$7300.00 for The Grapevine. The Grapevine has remained the beneficiary every year since and will be again this year.

The performers are all Rynborn alumni including Chris Fitz, Racky Thomas, Cheryl Arena, Skip Philbrick, Otis Doncaster and Russell Novotny among others. Tickets are \$25 in advance and are available at www.chrisconcert.org. The day of the concert tickets will be \$30 at the door—if there are any left. We are only selling 200. ■



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SELECT BOARD

Mike Genest, Chair

Lately Town Hall has been very busy with several personnel changes. Recently appointed Town Administrator Donna Hanson has been preparing her first town budget for the upcoming town meeting while Diane Chauncey has transitioned to the Town Clerk/Tax Collector position. Both of these changes have been very smooth.

Election Day is Tuesday, March 10, and it is very important that everyone get out and vote. There are many important issues facing our town including the School Petitioned Warrant article that advises the School Board to close Great Brook. The Board of Selectmen feels that this is a school board decision and that they should be allowed to propose what they feel is best for our school District as the student population continues to decline.

After meeting with the water and sewer commissioners, the Board of Selectmen has decided to put the Highland Ave and Pleasant Street Project off until next year. With a projected cost of close to 1.7 million dollars, this delay will give the town ample time to research and apply for any grants that may be available. On this year's town warrant we are asking to add \$225,000.00 to the Highway Capital Reserve Fund in hopes of using a portion of those funds to offset the cost of this project next year.

There will be a warrant article to install lights at Shea Field. A majority of

the Board of Selectmen voted that this article should be brought forward for the voters to decide at Town Meeting. There will also be a warrant article to enter into a 20-year lease agreement for a Solar Array at the Water & Sewer Plant. The Solar Array will provide close to \$250,000 in revenue to the Town over the term of the lease.

There will also be a warrant article for a 10-wheel dump truck for the Highway Department. The town currently uses 6 wheel dump trucks and the majority of the board feels with the capacity of the truck going from 8 to 16 yards that this is a good idea to save time and fuel to become more efficient.

The Board of Selectmen has decided not to bring forward the Conservation Easement for the Bean Property at this time. Until the current New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee process to determine jurisdiction and an application is submitted and approved, it would be premature to move forward since the easement would only take effect if the Wind Project were approved. Currently the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee is deciding again whether to take jurisdiction on this project.

Please remember to vote on Tuesday, March 10 and to attend Town Meeting on Thursday March 12. ■

ANTRIM POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Scott R. Lester

The Antrim Police has seen some changes in staffing over the last few months. With the resignation of Sgt. Ryan Storro, we began a search to fill the open position this past December.

By the end of the application deadline, I received approximately twenty suitable applications. After a thorough evaluation of the applications, I sent out fifteen invitations to take part in the written and physical fitness testing portions of the hiring process. We received several responses to the invitations, with many withdrawing due to a residency requirement. This requirement asked that the successful candidate relocate to Antrim or a surrounding town within twenty minutes of an Antrim border.

On January 17, 2015, five candidates attended the process with only two successfully completing both tests. An oral board that consisted of Antrim officers, Brian Lord and John Giffin along with Prosecutor Michael Beausoleil and Resident/Business owner Richard Edmunds Jr., conducted interviews of both candidates the following week. Candidate, Juan Lluberres left a strong impression following his interview and the board recommended, with confidence that he proceed in the process. I later met with Mr. Lluberres, who is a graduate of Saint Anselm's College and currently employed as a

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ANTRIM'S SOLAR GARDEN

Lyman Gilmore

New Hampshire Solar Garden is coming to Antrim next summer. In a sense, it is already here because the town has signed a one-year lease with the company that will install an acre-and-a-half of solar panels on scrubland near our water and sewer plant just off Depot Street.

But it won't become a reality unless we pass the warrant article in March permitting the town to sign a twenty-year agreement with NH Solar Garden to provide lower cost electricity to the town and individual residents who apply.

Before speaking with NH Solar Garden President Andrew Kellar, I checked its website: "What is a Solar Garden? Community Solar Gardens are built at one central location and the clean renewable energy is shared with the community participants all around the state." As Kellar explained to me by telephone, it works like this. "We lease land, produce power, and send it to the grid." The company contracts with a town to construct a "garden" of solar panels and signs a lease agreeing to pay the town for the use of its property, in Antrim's case \$8,000 a year. The solar garden produces electricity and feeds it into the PSNH grid (Public Service of New Hampshire) that pays the company for this power. Both the town and individuals can purchase this power at a rate lower than the regular PSNH cost through a rebate program by which the company will send the town

and individual customers one cent for each kilowatt hour (KWh) they have used. (The average NH home uses about 7,000 kilowatt hours a year, or almost 600 KWh a month.) Individuals can sign up on the company website. For more information, see their website: www.nhsolargarden.com.

According to Selectboard Chairman Mike Genest, between the \$8,000 a year lease and \$4,300 a year rebate, Antrim stands to receive from the company almost two hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) over the twenty years of the contract.

Kellar says they have twenty-two solar garden projects of different sizes in NH currently, including Hillsborough, Bedford, and Milton. The Antrim project should be up and running by June 2015, but only if we pass the warrant article this month. ■

BAPTIST CHURCH STEEPLE REPAIR

Charles Boucher, Pastor

The Trustees of the Baptist Church have announced that the Church has raised the necessary funds to complete the restoration work on the steeple. Thank you to all who contributed to making the goal. A contract has been procured with Mid Maine Steeple Repair, and work should be completed in the late spring. ■

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ANTRIM HISTORY QUIZ

Eric Tenney, Quizmaster

Note from Steve Ullman, Antrim Historical Society President.

“As you perhaps know, Eric Tenney is one of the “deans” of Antrim’s local history. From time to time Eric prepares a quiz to test our knowledge of significant Antrim events, places, and personalities. To find the answers to these quiz items, please consult the Antrim Historical Society website www.antrimhistoricalsociety.org.”

1. Who was the first regular preacher in the Town of Antrim?
2. Besides his church duties, what other significant contributions did he make to the Antrim community?
3. Where did this clergyman live?
4. Why is Congreve Road located where it is?
5. What area of Antrim was known as “The City”?

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ANTRIM’S “GREAT DECISIONS” GROUP

Steve Ullman

Great Decisions is a series of informal conversations about the foreign policy challenges which our country confronts. No special expertise in foreign policy is needed, only an interest in our country’s future abroad.

Antrim’s Great Decisions group will meet at 6:30 p.m. at the Tuttle Library on the following dates:

April 2 • Russia and the Near Abroad

April 9 • Privacy in the Digital Age

April 14 • Sectaransm in the Middle East

April 23 • India Changes Course

April 30 • The US & Africa: The Rise and Fall of Obamamania

May 7 • Syria’s Refugee Crisis

May 14 • Human Trafficking: A Serious Challenge to Humanity

May 29 • Brazil’s Metamorphosis

Participants may order the Great Decisions manual from the Foreign Policy Association for \$20 (1-800-477-5836 or sales@fpa.org). I also have three manuals, which you may purchase (588-2005). The manual contains short articles, which accompany each session’s topic. There will also be two Great Decisions manuals on reserve in the library. For further information please call or email Steve Ullman at 588-2005 or sullman@brockport.edu.

Antrim Police Dept continued from page 6

Security Enforcement Officer for the Lawrence School District, to discuss the remainder of the process to determine his suitability for the position.

We hope to conclude an extensive background investigation by the time this article is published. If everything goes smoothly, Juan will be sworn in as a new officer and begin his field training immediately. We hope to introduce him to the community throughout the spring and summer months before he enters the Police Academy in late August 2015. The Academy course is sixteen weeks long, and additional in-house training will be necessary following his graduation from the Academy.



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ANTRIM RECREATION DEPARTMENT
SUPPORT WARRANT ARTICLE #6 FOR LIGHTS AT SHEA FIELD

Celeste Lunetta, Director

I usually use this space in the Limrik to detail upcoming programs. I've submitted some dates to the calendar, and we do have lots of wonderful programs to offer you in March, April and May. We've also had a great winter with Basketball, Skiing and Snowboarding, crafts, movies and toddler playground. All that said, what I'd really like to reach out to you about is Warrant Article 6 for this year's Town Ballot that requests funding for athletic lighting at Shea Field. For ten years, the Parks and Recreation commission has worked to resolve a serious need for additional playing field space for current recreation programs. More than six properties were seriously investigated, and many more were considered but rejected. The commission has determined that the most reasonable and cost effective solution to get additional playing time is to invest in the current Shea Field. We have learned that lighting Shea Field is one fifth the cost of buying land and building additional fields, and the lighting plan we are proposing comes with a 25 year maintenance plan and guarantee. We are asking for your support, or for you to explain to us why you are opposed. Here are some answers to questions we have been asked. Please contact Celeste at Antrim Recreation Department 588-3121, or Peter Lamb at 588 3063, if you have any questions.

FAQ'S REGARDING LIGHT AT SHEA FIELD

What about light pollution?

The Musco light structures we propose have been specifically engineered to reduce light spill. This improves the lighting of the field, lowers operating costs, and reduces light pollution to your property and to the skies. The lights come with factory-installed visors and are "Dark Sky Approved."

Will the lights affect people's privacy?

The lights are factory-aimed to guarantee maximum lumens on the playing surface and to minimize off-site spill lumens. Examples of Musco lighting can be seen at ConVal Stadium field. The Bennington Newhall Field and the River Field in Milford have the previous generation of Musco

lights. Musco will do a light trespass survey as a further service to minimize impact to abutters.

When will the lights be on? Are there any rules?

The lights will ONLY be on if there is an approved and scheduled event through the Recreation Department, and this will primarily be for sporting events. The lights will never be on after 9:00 p.m., and rarely on after 8:00 p.m. All parks are closed after 9:00 p.m. We expect most of the use to be during the following months and times: April-May, Mondays-Fridays, 6:30-8:00; mid-September-November, Mondays-Fridays, 6:00-8:00; January-February, Fridays and/or Saturdays, 4:30-7:30.

Who will be able to turn the lights on and off?

Recreation Department personnel will control the lights, and the police and fire departments will also have access. We are able to monitor and control the lights remotely.

Why are these lights a priority for Antrim Recreation?

We currently have just one outdoor athletic facility, Shea Field. We are not able to schedule adequate practices and games for the programs we currently administer, nor are we able to offer additional field use times for all age groups. Examples of programs we would initiate if we had additional field space include adult softball, adult pick up soccer, flag football, Ultimate Frisbee and other recreation programs. Increasing programs for residents of all ages is listed in the Master Plan, and is a priority of the P&R Commission and the Recreation Department. To meet this goal, we need additional field time. This lighting project meets that need for the next 30 to 40 years. The search for additional field space will end with the completion of this light project.

Why can't these games/practices be played in other towns?

We are addressing the Master Plan for recreation for Antrim. Our current programs do turn to other towns for field mutual aid. This is sometimes a successful process, and

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**Presbyterian Church
73 Main St, Antrim**

sometimes it is not. We are unable to expand our offerings during spring/fall, popular times for outdoor sports. It is difficult to put some programs onto other fields because of required equipment.

Is there really that much demand for the field?

Yes, and the demand is increasing. We cannot meet the current demand for field time during the spring and fall sports seasons. Lights are a cost effective way to meet the demand for field space, compared to acquiring land and building additional playing fields. Lights on the field add an additional, daily, 90 minute (6:30–8:00) time slot for scheduling practices and games during end of April, May, September, October and early November.

How much will it cost to operate the lights?

The cost to operate the lights will be paid for with user/registration fees. The electric bills will be paid for out of the recreation revolving account; there will not be any taxpayer dollars used for the operating cost of the lights. At this time, the cost to operate the lights during the months they are in use will be under \$700 per month, and we are exploring options to significantly reduce that cost. (\$400 of this is a demand charge from the utility company.) In addition, the operating cost will be charged to and paid by the programs using the lights—not the taxpayers general budget. There are no operating costs during the months that the lights are not in use.

How will the light project impact the operating budget?

The initial costs will be presented as withdrawals from the capital improvement fund that designated for acquisition of and improvement to Parks and Recreation facilities. In order to begin the project in 2015, we will ask for an additional \$35,000 to go into the fund. We plan to maintain some balance in the Capital Improvement Fund that is designated for acquisition and improvement for parks. This particular project, lighting at Shea Field, has been on the docket for more than 6 years, and there are other parks that require attention as well, so we intend to keep saving for those projects. We have submitted one grant already for this light project, and will submit more as they become available, and so

there may be some reduction to the impact if that endeavor is successful. We also hope to get some donations of services to assist with the installation costs at both phases. The request for the warrant for 2015 is \$95,000 (\$70,000 from our current CIP fund, \$25, 000 from additional funds into the CIP, leaving \$10,000 in CIP for future use.) These funds can ONLY be expended with an affirmative vote from the Town Meeting.

What is the cost of the project?

This project is projected to be in two phases. The first phase, which includes installing five bases and three light poles, is not more than \$95,000. The second phase, the installation of the remaining two light poles, is not more than \$33,000.

What about fundraising to pay the capital expense?

We have applied for one grant through the Cal Ripken Foundation, and are applying for any others that we can find.

What about ongoing maintenance of the lights?

These light towers come with a 25-year maintenance plan, which includes replacing the lamps ('re-lamping') at the 20th year. The re-lamping is predicted to last an additional 20 years.

How tall are the light towers? How many will there be?

There will be five light towers at the end of the project. These towers will be between 60 and 70 feet high. In the first phase, all five tower bases will be installed and three light towers will be put up. In the second phase of the project, the remaining two light towers will be put up. The towers at ConVal fields are also 70 feet high. We will be putting balloons up during the first two weeks of March, so that people can get an idea of where and how high each tower will be.

Have you spoken with the neighbors?

We have. We had a meeting about the project two years ago, and one at the end of January. We have reached out personally to direct neighbors surrounding the field. If you want more information, or wish to discuss this project in advance of Town Meeting, please reach out to us by calling 588-3121. We want to answer your questions. ■



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MODEL SHIPWRIGHT EARL MORRILL

Lyman Gilmore

“Earl’s pretty handy at fixing things,” I thought to myself last summer when I picked up my favorite old hoe from Edmunds where he had refastened the blade. Little did I know how handy Earl Morrill really is.

Take a look at Earl’s model built from scratch of the Clipper Ship Spitfire on permanent display at the Penobscot Marine Museum in Searsport, Maine. It took him a year and a half to construct, and it is an authentic copy—one quarter-inch to the foot—of the original “Spitfire” built in 1853. Earl completed the Spitfire in 2000, and it sold for \$20,000. His Spitfire is just one of seventeen sailing ship models he has built, all now in museums and private collections.



Earl doesn’t use model kits like many modelers do, but is a “scratch” builder which means he researches each ship for months before starting to build from scratch. He obtains original blueprints and paintings of nineteenth century sailing ships and then constructs them from the keel up—hull, deck, masts, and rigging—using authentic materials the same as in the original ships.

Sixty-nine year old Earl Morrill has been working at Edmunds for about five years. He moved here to be with his

partner and her aging mother, and they live on the banks of the Contoocook River in a ranch style home with cats, dog, a horse and one donkey. Earl grew up in South Orrington, Maine, on the Penobscot River just south of Bangor, the lumber capital of the United States in the 1800s. Three times a year his great grandfather Joseph H. Atwood sailed lumber schooners thirty miles down to the ocean and then on to Boston and New York, returning with loads of produce. As a boy in a shipbuilding village, “I hung out with an old trapper and cemetery sexton Joe Hurd who knew everybody in town,” and who taught him how to row upstream “going from eddy to eddy against the current,” as well as how to trap beaver, otter, mink, marten, fisher and ermine. Earl was quoted in the monthly *The Working Waterfront*: “I guess it was Old Joe who was the beginning of my maritime studies and my desires to build models of Maine sailing vessels.” As Earl’s ship models became widely known, he grew famous among Maine maritime people, as “Earl on the River.”

Earl didn’t start ship modeling until he got out of the navy in 1970, having served at Pearl Harbor Submarine Base where he was a ship fitter and damage control man. Later he worked on submarines during the Viet Nam war. He got further sea experience—and learned navigation—as an engineer and tanker-man for five years on the coastal oil tanker W.M. MCLOON up and down the Maine coast, “from Seaport to Eastport.” Always handy with tools, he had done well in high school industrial arts courses, and he was trained as a Class A Ship Fitter at the San Diego Navy Base. “I grew up making things and fixing things,” a statement confirmed by Rick Edmunds who says, “Earl can fix anything!” Earl is at Edmunds from Monday to Saturday, 7:00am to 2:00 pm, and if you have anything that needs repair (as I did), he’ll take care of it.

That first model ship back in 1970 was his great grandfather’s lumber schooner, the Charles S. Hazzard. Earl told me “it was a little rough, and I realized I didn’t know much about actual shipbuilding.” So he set out to educate him-

✍ — continued on page 18

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HANNAH AND VICTORIA

Sheila Nichols

Recently, we have observed one of our chickens, a black hen, wandering about. She walks directly away from the coop into the wind, perches on the stone wall in snow, ends up far afield from the flock, and seems uninterested in returning to the coop at dusk with the other chickens. Each night one of us treks around, locates her, and carries her to the coop. The black hen is approaching five years of age, and we assume her time at the farm is coming to an end.

To cull or not to cull that is the question. "To cull: to send (an inferior or surplus animal on a farm) to be slaughtered." Whether 'tis Nobler in the mind or not...we at Liberty Farm are unable to perform this farmer's task. We have had injured animals in the past and have worked hard to nurse them back to health, some successfully and some not, but we tried.

The sheep have taken an interest in the chickens, watching them and follow them around. One ewe, Victoria, is especially taken with the old black hen. She is very attentive to the hen and stands near her all the time. This

morning while sipping my tea and watching the animals out the window, I noticed Victoria having a stare down contest with the rooster. Victoria won and the rooster walked away. Then Victoria turned revealing the black hen on the stone wall. She walked over to the hen and started nuzzling her. The black hen stayed still as Victoria nuzzled under her wing and around her beak. It was so sweet. I decided that even if the black hen was on her way out she needed a name and so she became Hannah.

Sometime around 4:30 pm we close up the animals for the night. I found Hannah under the manger in the discarded hay. I picked her up and carried her into the greenhouse. Bill thought she would be more comfortable there sharing the warmth with the goats.

I put her in a wooden box with some straw, food and water. She began pecking for the food but missed it more often than she found it. I am not an animal behaviorist. I have learned what I know about our farm animals from books and observation. Hannah was having trouble locating the food in the little dish that I had placed directly in front of her. I noticed she didn't flinch when I returned with a watering dish. I put it near the food but she didn't drink. When I moved it under her head as she was lowering it for more food she started to drink. She turned her head to one side seemingly looking for the food and peaked at the side of the box. It was then that I had my "ah ha" moment. Hannah is blind.

I called Michael and Bill down to the greenhouse and showed them. Poor girl was eating and drinking greedily. We tried moving our hands near her eyes to see if she would react. No reaction she just continued eating and drinking, when she could locate the food and water.

Hannah is bedded down in her wooden box, with food and water in

the greenhouse. She seems contented at last. I wonder if Victoria will look for her tomorrow. We will leave the greenhouse door open during the day so they can visit. I am hopeful their friendship will continue.

Based in science or not, I believe in animal friendships. If you are feeling cabin fever or just need a smile to warm your heart, I recommend this book: *Friends, True Stories of Extraordinary Animal Friendships*, by Catherine Thimmesh. ■

ANTRIM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Steve Ullman, President

Over the past few years Marcia and I have heard Eric Tenney discuss the evolution of Antrim's roads, Lyman Gilmore chronicle the birth and death of Hawthorne College, and Nina Harding, Charlie Butterfield and Gordon Webber recount the history of Antrim's schools. After each program Marcia has reminded me how crucial a permanent record of these narratives would be for current and future generations. In response, the Antrim Historical Society has decided to purchase a video camera, a tripod, and two microphones so that in 2035 or 2065 Tuttle Library patrons can inform themselves about, for instance, Edmunds store and the Scots-Irish presence in Antrim.

The AHS maintains its cooperative relationship with the Festival of Trees (FOT) which this year attracted 2,000 visitors to our picturesque Tuttle Library. On November 20th Kristie Boule and Connie Vandervort spoke to us about the ongoing collaboration between the FOT and the AHS.

The Antrim Historical Society is exploring outreach programs with Antrim's schools. We hope that Antrim Elementary and Great Brook students

—continued on page 14



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ANTRIM-BENNINGTON LIONS CLUB

Steve Ullman, 1st Vice-President

Each December the Antrim-Bennington Lions Club conducts "Operation Santa." With the proceeds from our annual Christmas tree sale at Tenney Farm, we have for many years purchased gifts for financially challenged children in our community. This has been a labor of love headed up by Alicemae Flanders. We wish to thank those who purchased 124 trees this year in spite of the freezing rain and blustery cold. And, of course, Santa (who looks suspiciously like Rick Wood) gets our commendation for chatting up the good little boys and girls who were inspecting our tree selection.

In December, William May, former Townsend, Massachusetts Police Chief and author of *Once Upon A Crisis: A Look at Post-Traumatic Stress in Emergency Services From Inside Out* gave the AB Lions a riveting talk on surviving PTSD. We now more fully appreciate the stress that local first responders undergo.

We have several programs planned for the spring. On April 7th we plan to host Donna Hanson (Antrim Town Administrator), and Diane Kendall (Antrim resident and Hancock Town Administrator) who will discuss their experiences in coordinating municipal services. On March 17th John Robertson (or should I say John O'Robertson) will be serving his fellow Lions his annual St. Patrick's Day repast. In our continuing effort to connect Antrim and Bennington voters more tightly to their representatives in Concord, the AB Lions, in March or April, will be sponsoring an evening with our state representatives and Senator. This session will focus on budgetary deliberations in Concord. And in May, Joan Caughey Gorga and Frank Gorga will discuss their two-week canoe trek through the wilds of northernmost Canada's Northwest Territories.

The AB Lions are proud to have been recognized as state leaders in rolling out vision screening for the young children of our community. Led by Dick Loveland, we not only screened more than 80 percent of the students attending Antrim, Pierce, Hancock, Frankestown and Greenfield Elementary Schools but also made major contributions to writing screening manuals and informational materials to be distributed statewide.

The AB Lions continue their charitable enterprises by sponsoring the Antrim Spring Bike Rodeo and as well as our own team in the Antrim Recreation Department's Girls softball league.

Sarah Edwards, a.k.a. "King Lion", i.e., the chair of the Antrim-Bennington Lions Club, continues to provide us with first-rate leadership. If you are interested in joining our merry band (pride?) of Lions and thereby helping with our community service programs, please contact Sarah or, for that matter, any AB Lion. Our meetings are now being held at the Antrim Presbyterian Church the first and third Tuesdays each month. ■

SAXY CHEF

Lyman Gilmore

There is a new business in Antrim, but you will have to leave town to buy anything from it. "Saxy Chef" which bakes pies, cakes, brownies, whoopee pies, and cookies is the creation of Aubrey Saxton who last October moved into the space recently occupied by Bakery 24 on Main Street across from the library.



Aubrey was born in Peterborough, raised in Keene, and now lives with her husband and their dogs and cats in Dublin. She is a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America in New York, and while she has a degree in "Cooking," she so loves baking that she sticks to that. "I love cookies, and there is nothing more disappointing than buying some that look good but are lacking." So she says she specializes in the best ingredients, very carefully baked. You can find her baked goods at fine markets in the area including Nature's Green Grocery and Rosalie's Garden in Peterborough, the Monadnock Food Coop in Keene, and Farmer John's Plot in Dublin. She caters weddings and parties in the summer, and she is looking for more outlets to sell her pies and cookies. At this point, she is not open for local walk-in retail business, but she may open a day or two before holidays for special baked items. ■

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PROJECT LIFT

LITERACY FOR TODAY—FREE ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM

Judy Fournier

Did you know that 79,000 NH adults 25 years and older lack a high school diploma.

Did you also know that there is a free service that can help with math, reading, writing, resumes, career exploration, and basic computer skills for Antrim residents?

Project LIFT Adult Education was started through Hillsboro's Fuller Public Library in 1992 as a basic literacy program and has since branched out into an organization that meets many needs of its students. LIFT's main office is in Hillsboro and also meets at the Grapevine, Tuttle Library, Dodge Library, and Peterborough Library. We serve the Greater Hillsboro area, Antrim, Peterborough, Frankestown, Greenfield, Hancock and many other surrounding towns.

Sometimes people are shy or embarrassed about being in their 30's or 40's or older and need to learn a new skill. Project LIFT has served nearly 1300 people since its inception, nearly 600 students from Hillsboro and 134 from Antrim. Fourteen Antrim residents have achieved their GED, now called HiSET (High School Equivalency Test) certificate in the last three years. Four Bennington residents have passed their HiSET exam in the past three years.

HOW IT WORKS

Pick up the phone or stop by the LIFT office located at 63 West Main Street (across from Eaton's Furniture) in Hillsboro and tell us what you need. We have open enrollment so once someone's needs are determined and location is decided upon, we schedule a time that works for both teacher/volunteer and student. Our services are free of charge. Project LIFT is primarily funded by the NH Bureau of Adult Education, but we get donations from the towns we serve as well as from businesses and grant foundations. We also welcome new volunteer tutors to the program; no former teaching experience is required. Tutors meet at the library, up to two hours one time each week, at their convenience.

Call Judy (464-at Project LIFT today to find out more 464-528 or email her at hillsboroadulted@hotmail.com. More information at www.fullerlibrary.info click on GED tab at top right. ■

will be able to learn about the history of Antrim's theater, town government, and community organizations.

The AHS has made progress in establishing on-line availability for Tuttle Library web site users interested in copies of *The Antrim Home News* (1875-1883), the *Antrim Reporter* (1892-1951, and the entire run of the *Limrik*.

Readers will notice that in this edition of the *Limrik*, AHS Board members have contributed articles about growing up in the 1950's in North Branch and the World War II enemy plane spotting program.

Here are our tentative plans for 2015 programs. In April we intend to reschedule Don Dunlap's talk on "The Dunlap Heritage of Woodworking." In May (depending on whether our New Hampshire Humanities Council grant application has been approved) we hope to host a speaker from beyond the metro Antrim area to examine broad themes in New Hampshire History. In June, George Caughey and Joan Caughey Gorga will recount their lives as "Free Range" kids in North Branch. On July 4th we will once again celebrate the issuing of the Declaration of Independence.

And now a word from our sponsor. Once again it is time to thank Antrim residents for their support and to ask them to consider renewing their memberships at the bargain rates of \$10 for an individual membership and \$20 for a family membership. And if you have not been a member in the past, this is an occasion to enlist in the cause of preserving and celebrating Antrim's history.

Members, old and new, can enjoy the warm feeling of knowing that they have done something significant to commemorate Antrim's history. Dues can be sent to the Antrim Historical Society, P.O. Box 172, Antrim, New Hampshire 03440.

It is through your financial support that the Antrim Historical Society is able to continue to archive artifacts from Antrim's past and to present thought-provoking programs throughout the year. ■

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TRIBUTE TO A WATERING TROUGH

Charles Butterfield

The watering trough in our barn is gone now. Ripped out to accommodate more contemporary barn usage, that concrete tub was a convenience and a source of fun when I lived at Butterfield Farm.

I don't recall seeing such a construction in any of the other barns I visited regularly as a kid. Not at Albert Bryer's where we led our heifers to be bred by his bull, not at Smith Harriman's where we bought milk to supplement our production, not at Elmer Merrill's where I could almost always obtain new-born bunnies or kittens for little or nothing, not at Ben Tenney's where we went to buy young stock. Seems the in-barn watering trough was a Butterfield Farm feature.

I suspect that the concrete bowl was poured in place by my grandfather, an enterprising and forward-thinking man (he wired his house for electricity before there was even a generating plant in Antrim). As a twenty-something, Charles Butterfield joined his father Bill in an extensive poultry business. Their hens won prizes at fairs and competitions throughout New England. Hens were housed in the barn (there are still fragments of chicken wire in the hay lofts), and chickens drink a lot of water. A slightly elevated spring supplied the farm buildings, and it made good sense to collect the slow-moving water in a reservoir handy to barn chores.

The watering trough I remember probably came about like this: When the father-and-son enterprise was barely under way, their house burned down (October, 1896). They immediately rebuilt on the spot, and at the same time rolled the main barn from its original location across Clinton Road and attached it to their new house by way of a two-story woodshed in typical New England fashion. I suppose, but don't know for sure, that the watering trough was installed as part of the post-fire construction.

Anyway, there it was—a concrete tank holding maybe fifty gallons of fresh water just inside the barn door. A faucet regulated the continuous, thin trickle of water that kept the trough full, and a three-inch drain at the top of the tank carried the water through the barn floor where it fell on the ground under the barn. In winter, a huge stalagmite grew

from the drain drips.

To prevent hay chaff, sawdust and other barn stuff falling into the trough, someone attached a hinged cover to the tank. We kept the cover closed in winter, and a piece of old carpet thrown over the whole thing insulated the water from the frigid air in the barn. Sometimes the faucet or drain froze temporarily, but the body of water never did.

Uncovered, the stored water found many uses. It leveled out at just the right height for a standing German Shepherd to lap. A horse, hot and thirsty after a day in the hayfield, could drink its fill on the way to its stall. Bucketfuls went into dishes set out for short-legged or fenced-in animals. A metal cup near the faucet waited to quench a farmer's thirst, too.

Our cows normally drank from plumbed-in watering cups, devices two cows shared and manipulated with their noses. At below-zero temperatures, though, water in the barn pipes sometimes froze. Until the pipes could be thawed, we carried buckets of water from the trough to the cows in their stanchions. It was then that we appreciated what a prodigious drinker a milking cow is, consuming up to 35 gallons a day! Some of the younger, more manageable stock were released in small groups to drink directly from the trough twice a day. What a relief to man and beast when water flowed freely through the pipes again.

Aside from slaking thirst, we poured water from the trough on garden plots and new plantings. We washed tools and muddied vehicles with trough water, sloshed away spilled milk or excrement (lots of excrement in a barn) with it, and rinsed out containers and soiled rags. The tank itself was a convenient place to sink a newly hung ax head or shovel blade to swell the handle tight. From time to time, my father drained the trough to clean it. Unthinking, I'd walk to the empty tank and... "oh"... realize how much I depended on the collected water.

The trough was a safety feature. Water to douse an accidental fire from a blow torch, an errant ember, a carelessly tossed cigarette was immediately at hand.

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Once, in the laboratory I built in the barn, I conceived the notion of warming my hands by burning some wood alcohol in a tuna fish can. Of course, the alcohol spilled and blue flames spread over the workbench. I didn't panic. I ran to the watering trough, filled the bucket and poured water on the flames. Any fool knows that water won't put out a fire fueled by a liquid that floats on water. But I didn't know that. Then I panicked. I yelled, and my father came with an empty grain bag to smother the flames.

I put the watering trough to better uses. When I constructed a toy boat, I tested it there before lugging it to Parmenter Brook. When a bike tire went flat, I found the leak by dunking the inner tube in the trough. After my cousins and I unloaded hay into the hot and dusty haymows, I instigated water fights at the watering trough to cool us down. On a lazy summer day, with nothing pressing, I might sit on the cool rim of the trough, trailing my hands through chill water and running my fingers over the soft algae that coated the inside walls, thinking a boy's long thoughts.

I don't suppose that boy's long thoughts referred at all to an old man reaching back through seven decades to retrieve mossy images of his grandfather's watering trough. ■

SCHOOL BOARD

Crista Salamy

A warrant article to close Great Brook School is once more upon us. What does that mean? Why is it coming up again? Would that be a good idea? Wasn't this school just named NH Middle School of the Year? How can we stop this? What would happen to the elementary school?

These are just a few of the many questions we have been fielding since mid-January. They are good questions and ones that school board members from the Great Brook community wish to discuss at the meeting with its constituents. We also want to explain our budget and answer as many questions as we can. The meeting will be held at the Antrim Town Hall at 7:00 p.m. on March 4th. Spread the word and please come. ■

THE GRIFFINS NEST

A Middle-School/Elementary School Buddy Program

Robin Gregg

We school counselors often promote and help to create mentoring programs for our students. An initiative in the ConVal School District exemplifies the social learning and personal growth that can take place when students have the opportunity to learn from students who are younger or older than themselves.

Each week during the school year, a group of sixth, seventh and eighth grade students from Great Brook School (GBS) and a group of second, third and fourth grade students from Antrim Elementary School (AES) come together for team-building activities, action songs, crafts, role plays and games designed to foster communication, social skills, confidence, emotional self-regulation and leadership ability. The *Griffins Nest* program, a collaborative initiative created five years ago and facilitated by the Extended Learning Program (ELP) teacher at Great Brook, Maryanne Cullinan, and me, the school counselor at Antrim Elementary, Robin Gregg, takes advantage of the two schools' proximity: GBS and AES are steps away from one other on opposite sides of the GBS parking lot.

GBS and AES are both places where positive behavioral interventions and supports are developed and implemented for all students. Using the PBIS model (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports), both schools teach behavioral expectations to all students and provide targeted interventions to "yellow zone" students, those students who require a bit more support and positive reinforcement. *Griffins Nest* is one such targeted intervention, a way to provide a bit of extra support to selected students on a regular basis during the school year.

Each middle school Griffin (the group is named after the mythological Gryphon, a combination of a bird and a cat, and represents an amalgam of the AES Eagles and the GBS Bobcats) is carefully paired with an AES buddy. Each buddy pair creates and uses a "secret handshake" to greet and say goodbye to each other every week. The buddies practice asking questions to learn more about one another—their interests, talents, pets, likes and dislikes. The Griffins participate in role-plays, theater improvisation activities, art projects, cooperative games and action songs. They take nature/buddy walks in the spring and learn contra dancing. They laugh, enjoy themselves, and have fun together!

In addition to providing regular, positive support and serving as a weekly bright spot in the lives of many of the Griffins, the program is a highlight of the week for the school counselor and ELP teacher, reminding both of us of the power of relationship, the joy and power of positive connection in our lives as educators and in the lives of our students. ■

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MARCH

- 1 *Celtic Evensong* • Presbyterian Church • 5:30 p.m.
- 4 *Lenten Luncheon* • Baptist Church • 12:00–1:00 p.m.
- 4 *Special Meeting on GBS Closing* • Antrim Town Hall • 7:00 p.m.
- 10 *Town Voting* • Antrim Town Hall • 8:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.
- 11 *Lenten Luncheon* • Baptist Church • 12:00–1:00 p.m.
- 12 *Town Meeting* • Antrim Town Gym • 7:00 p.m.
- 13 *Eat Out for The Grapevine* • Rick & Diane's • all day
- 15 *Eat Out for The Grapevine* • The Hancock Inn • Sunday Dinner
- 18 *Lenten Luncheon* • Baptist Church • 12:00–1:00 p.m.
- 18 *Program-Meeting: Community Gardens* • Antrim Grange at Antrim Town Hall
- 19 *Free Community Suppers* • Presbyterian Church • 5:30 p.m.
- 21 *Eat Out for The Grapevine* • Common Place Eatery, Bennington • Breakfast 7:00–11:00 a.m.
- 21 *Collaborative Communication* • The Grapevine • 8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
- 21 *Book Signing: author/illustrator Hope Phillips* • Tuttle Library • 10:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.
- 22 *Free Pancake Breakfast* • Baptist Church • 8:30–10:00 a.m.
- 25 *Lenten Luncheon* • Baptist Church • 12:00–1:00 p.m.
- 26 *Eat Out for The Grapevine* • Fiddlehead's Café & Catering, Hancock • all day
- 28 *Grandparents Parenting Grandchildren* • The Grapevine • 10:00 a.m.–12:00 noon

APRIL

- 2 *Great Decisions Group* • Tuttle Library • 6:30 p.m.
- 5 *Easter Sunrise Service* • Baptist Church front lawn • 6:30 a.m.
- 7 *Evening with Town Administrators Hanson & Kendall* • Lions Club Program
- 9 *Great Decisions Group* • Tuttle Library • 6:30 p.m.
- 14 *Great Decisions Group* • Tuttle Library • 6:30 p.m.
- 15 *Program Meeting: Grange Founders' Night* • Antrim Grange
- 16 *Free Community Suppers* • Presbyterian Church • 5:30 p.m.
- 18 *Chris' Concert* • Monadnock Country Club, Peterborough • 7:00 p.m.
- 19 *Free Pancake Breakfast* • Baptist Church • 8:30–10:00 a.m.
- 20–24 *School Spring Break Drop-In Crafts* • Tuttle Library • during open hours
- 23 *Great Decisions Group* • Tuttle Library • 6:30 p.m.
- 29 *Program Meeting: Heritage Night* • Antrim Grange
- 30 *Great Decisions Group* • Tuttle Library • 6:30 p.m.

MAY

- 2 *Annual Youth Fishing Derby* • Mill Pond at Memorial Park • 8:00–9:30 a.m.
- 2 *Annual Bike Safety Program* • Antrim Police Department • 12:00–2:00 p.m.
- 3 *Celtic Evensong* • Presbyterian Church • 5:30 p.m.
- 7 *Great Decisions Group* • Tuttle Library • 6:30 p.m.
- 9 *Annual Spring Walk for Families* • The Grapevine • 9:30 a.m.
- 9 *Mom's Muffin Morning* • Tuttle Library • 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
- 14 *Great Decisions Group* • Tuttle Library • 6:30 p.m.
- 17 *Free Pancake Breakfast* • Baptist Church • 8:30–10:00 a.m.
- 20 *Annual Community Awards* • Antrim Grange
- 21 *Free Community Suppers* • Presbyterian Church • 5:30 p.m.
- 29 *Great Decisions Group* • Tuttle Library • 6:30 p.m.



self by reading and researching sailing ship construction. Now as a member of the Nautical Research Guild and the Smithsonian Institution, he is able to use their research and blueprints to plan and construct his models. He's proud to be a member of both, especially the Smithsonian because "they don't take you seriously until you have produced authentic models for about ten years."

One of the most famous ships, his third, was the SS Roosevelt that Admiral Robert Perry sailed on his 1905 and 1908 arctic explorations. Named for President Teddy Roosevelt, the 1,600 ton, 184-schooner interested Earl for



its egg-shaped steel-covered hull and its thick braced walls designed to withstand the crushing power of icebergs, but also because Earl's great uncle Maynard Wardwell was Perry's Chief Engineer on the ship. Earl worked from fourteen pages of blueprints, and his model of the Roosevelt is in the Buck Memorial Library in Bucksport, Maine.

Earl invited me to his basement workshop, and as I drove up the curving driveway his and Patty's horse and mule stared quizzically at me from their corral. Earl showed me his current project, the lumber schooner Izetta built in 1865 in Brewer, Maine, on which he has been working for a year and two months. His workbench is strewn with intricate tools and raw materials, including special twine from Barcelona, Spain, that becomes ships rigging, tiny boards of the same imported fine woods used in the original ship, miniature chain from Texas, and miniscule split bamboo for pegging hull planks to the frame. He hopes that when he finishes the Izetta it will wind up in the new logger museum being built in Brewer, Maine.

Earl's is an extraordinary craft of great precision and beauty.

For more about Earl, see his website, www.scalescratch-models.webs.com. ■

ANTRIM SENIOR CENTER

Marcia A. Ullman, Chair

Are you 55 years or older? (No, I'm not selling life insurance.) What I am selling is *quality time* with other seniors. Wouldn't you enjoy visiting fascinating New Hampshire sites, learning about world trips to exotic destinations, having brunch or an early morning snack with friends, or playing a game of cards? If so, the Antrim Area Senior Center (AASC) is for you!

The Antrim Area Senior Center (AASC), which serves Antrim, Deering, Bennington, Hancock, and Frankestown, is located in Antrim's Presbyterian Church. During our regular hours, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, you will find people playing cards, working on puzzles or enjoying a cup of coffee, good conversation and delicious baked goods generously provided by our volunteer bakers, Gerry Dumont, Torin Vanderwort, Sue Conklin, and Barbara Wells. Here are some of the activities we provided in 2014:

Educational Activities: Richard and Robin Loveland's talk on their trip to China was fascinating and very well received. Richard also gave an informative and engaging presentation on the history of the technology of recorded music.

The Concord Regional Visiting Nurse Association (VNA) offered a free, six-week course, entitled, "A Matter of Balance" at the AASC. Through interactive educational techniques and exercises, the fourteen people who attended learned about the common causes of falls, various ways to prevent them, and ways to improve their balance. All who attended thought that the course was excellent and gave high praise to the VNA presenters!

Breakfasts, Brunch, Lunches and Parties: The Board of Directors hosted a Valentine's Day brunch, monthly breakfasts, and a cookout at Gregg Lake. A popular offering this year were the "Mystery Lunch Trips" (a brainstorm of Jim and Nancy Burnham). Those who attended lunched at Lui Lui's in Lebanon, Newicks in Dover Point, and Hart's Turkey Farm in Meredith.

✍️ — continued on page 24

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A SECOND LIFE

Peter Gagne

Most of the time I sit down to write a story for the *Limrik* I keep in mind folks who can grasp my story because they have known me for years. Usually my stories relate to just these few readers, but in this article I hope to expand beyond this small group to a wider audience.

In 1984 when I was twenty-six years old I bought my first real hunting dog. He was no pure breed, but a cross between a Black Lab and a Golden Retriever that cost me only \$50.00. I named him Ko-Buck because a friend had told me that means “from the land.” (Later on I learned that “Ko-buk” is an *Inupiaq Eskimo* word meaning “big river,” which is perfect since Ko-Buck came to love Alaska.) From the time I picked him up to the day he died, he spent ninety-nine percent of his life with me. I would take him to work with me on my logging jobs, I would take him to our hunting camps in New York and Pennsylvania, and I took him on my long drives from New Hampshire to Alaska. I trained Buck to be a bird dog. There’s a saying in the bird dog hunting world: “A hunter is gifted to have one great bird dog in his life.”

To say Ko-Buck was a legend in his time would be an understatement. Many folks reading this article have hunted over Buck, and he left them fond memories of amazing retrieves in the waters and fields around Ant-irim. Most bird dogs have the ability to hunt just one type of bird; it is what they are bred for. They are either dogs that work land birds such as pheasant, partridge, quail and woodcock, or water dogs that retrieve, ducks and geese. Ko-buck was a master at both. His nose was amazing, and his determination in the field in a non-harmful way often insulted other bird dog owners. When we arrived at fields where others were hunting we would be told that there’s no sense hunting because all the birds are gone or the flight must not be in. I can easily recall sitting Ko-buck down and talking to him in a voice

that would get his tail wagging and his shoulders shaking. “You go find me a bird, Buck, get them up, go get ‘em boy!” Ko-buck would work every pile of brush and thicket, birds would fly, we would shoot, and he would fetch. The other hunters would look at their dogs in dismay.

When it came to water retrieving, Ko-buck had this amazing ability to find birds that would dive and hold onto grass underwater to avoid being retrieved. His nose could smell them, and he would dive down and bring them back to me. One friend showed up at the house many hours after hunting bummed out that he had hit a bird and saw it dive and could not get it. I told him to take Buck and put him in a canoe and take him out to where he had lost the duck, give him his command, and let him work. I can still see the smile on his face when he returned with Buck and the duck. Ko-buck’s retrieves numbered in the hundreds over his nine years of hunting. He wore himself out by his ninth season. He had gone deaf in one ear and his legs hurt from thousands of miles of running and swimming. I retired him to a life of luxury. I remodeled my work truck with a bed, and he loved coming into the house and sleeping by the wood stove. I loved that dog with every part of my heart and soul. When he died, well, I missed work for a week. I cried enough to fill one of his hunting ponds and my life changed in all aspects. To this day I cannot put his loss into words.

When we lose something that is a true love of the heart, well, I think we stumble and emotionally fall into cracks in life that we cannot get out of because we want what we lost. We try again to have it. I lost Ko-buck in 1993. I tried to fill my void with many dogs over the years, but no matter what type of dog I got, no matter how hard I worked, it was not meant to be. Some would not hunt, and some died of com-

plications before they were three years old. So finally I stopped looking or wanting. But funny how one can give up what one loves after losing what one loved.

Many years drifted by and it was a long time since I had a dog. Life seemed gray. It was 2008, and the economy was in the toilet that had a trickle-down effect on all of our lives. I decided I needed a pick-me-up and took myself out to breakfast at the diner in Hillsboro. As I was walking in I passed the *Union Leader* newspaper stand and thought about how my dad always reads the paper every morning. So, for the first time in my adult life that I can remember, I bought a paper. I enjoyed breakfast and I enjoyed the paper, kind of feeling like my dad. He reads the paper front to back, so when I got to the classifieds I just kept reading and then suddenly found myself in the “Pets.” There, in a little ad: “Black Lab, Golden Retriever mix, nine months old, two hundred dollars, Bradford NH.” I was taken completely off guard. I really remember feeling like I was having a small heart attack.

I went home and talked over the feelings with my partner Nancy and decided I just should not go. Why would I want to torture myself? Well, she went for a ride and came home and told me I was being crazy. I was angry, but I agreed to at least go have a look. I drove up to Bradford and met the women who had the dogs. It was not what I was hoping to see, but a kind of run down and dirty house with all the dogs jumping and barking out of control. I walked closer, and I saw, set back a little, a part of a black dog with a beautiful otter tail. That’s a unique gift some labs have, a bigger and wider tail that makes for a better swimmer. I asked for a better look and she called to him. He came around the other dogs and I almost dropped right

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ANTRIM GRANGE NEWS

Arthur and Beth Merrill

Antrim Grange continues to be active despite the weather. Four members attended the Northeast Grange Leaders' Conference in Portsmouth on January 9–11.

At our January program meeting, Dr. Tom Dowling spoke about zoonotic diseases, those that can be transferred from animals to humans. The February program speaker was Peter Beblowski, of the Antrim Conservation Commission, who exhibited the NH Fish & Game's "Scat Kit" and showed us how to identify the presence of animals by observing their droppings. We held Candidates' Night in February to give interested citizens a chance to meet and learn the intentions of those who seek to be elected to a town office.

Upcoming events we will be participating in include the State Grange Youth Committee's Glow Bowling fundraiser on March 7 and the State Grange Bowling Tournament the following day. The State Grange Spring Fling workshop day will be on April 11 in Tilton and the State Lecturer's Variety and Talent Show is set for May 2 in Hooksett.

The March 18th program meeting will feature a discussion on community gardens and soils and we highly encourage all local gardeners and "wanna-be" gardeners to attend this program and help us make plans to establish a community garden here in Antrim. We are planning two programs in April

to observe National Grange Month. April 15 will be Grange Founders' Night and April 29 is set to be Heritage Night and we hope representatives from other local organizations will join us that evening. And our final open meeting before summer will be our annual Community Awards Night on May 20, which will also be the Grange Baking Contest, so visitors will be able to sample the "No-Bake Dessert" entries. It seems a bit odd, we know, to have no-bake recipes for a baking contest but that's what the state Family Committee chose for this year's contest. If you know of someone in Antrim or Bennington who you think deserves to be honored for excellent work as a teacher, policeman, fireman, rescue, or community volunteer, please let one of our members know or contact Beth Merrill at 588-6615 to make your nomination.

Be thinking of the 13th annual Art Show to be held at the Grange Hall June 19–21. If you are a local artist not already on our mailing list, please see the contact information above. And let us know if you have questions about the Grange that we can answer for you. New members are always welcome and many have found the Grange to be a great place for the entire family to join and enjoy together. We are a fraternal organization with great traditions, values, and opportunities. ■

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SCHOOL CULTURE AT GREAT BROOK

Jim Elder

People visiting Great Brook lately notice that things have changed significantly over the past few years. This change has not only been detected by the residents of Antrim, Frankestown, Bennington, and Hancock, but by the people from other ConVal towns, the District administration, and even the “NH Excellence in Education Board” who recently awarded us the prestigious “Middle School of the Year” award. In my opinion, the most important change in the school had been a change of culture. But what *is* school culture?

In a recent work, “School Culture Rewired,” the authors Steve Gruenert and Todd Whitaker define school culture as:

- The social glue that holds people together
- Deeply embedded beliefs and assumptions
- A code honored by members
- A collective consciousness
- “The way we do things around here”

The authors go on to explain that “Culture is a social narcotic to which practically all of us are addicted—we feel good when we belong to a group.” I believe a few years ago students thought that to belong to a group they needed to separate themselves from adults. This included questioning their teachers and challenging the rules. They did this not because they were inherently disrespectful, but because it was a cultural expectation of them. Great Brook teachers obviously felt frustrated, but what could they do?

The excellent teachers of this school recognized that a change was needed. They got together and made a promise to one another to turn this around, which we call our “collective compartments” at Great Brook. To the degree possible, teachers spoke with one voice about discipline, and shared in the hard work of following through. But this was not enough.

Next, the teachers began to notice and reward students who made respectful choices. Teachers also directly taught the kids how they wanted them to behave. Over time, positive behavior started to happen more often. Our “Students of Excellence” assemblies are a result of this effort. Beyond teaching and rewarding good behavior, we began to build

a positive image of our student body. Suddenly they were “Bobcats,” (our school mascot) and we would talk about the “the Bobcat way” of doing things. We have emphasized over and over again that the way we do things around here is to be responsible, respectful, and safe, to look out for other Bobcats, and to be understanding and accepting of mistakes. Students who are afraid of making mistakes do not learn.

These ideas are succinctly captured by the internationally recognized educational author and theorist Carol Ann Tomlinson in a recent *Educational Leadership* article, “Pondering Good vs. Great.” She writes, “Cultural leader(ship) moves beyond symbolic leadership to create a sense of history, to reflect and perpetuate an ideology that captures the group’s mission... People respond with a sense of motivation and commitment. The school becomes a distinct entity that evokes rich meanings and a sense of belonging to something important.”

I am very proud to be a part of what the staff has created here. Students appear to love their school and are proud to be a part of it. The hallways are warm and inviting. Learning has increased dramatically, and in fact we were the third most improved school in the NECAP test a couple of years ago. Things really are going well here. If you would like to see for yourself, please drop by sometime soon. You will find an alert, polite, and engaged group of Bobcats! □

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there. He was a little smaller, but a dead ringer for Ko-buck. I asked if he could come outside, and she said he is a little hyper and might run around out of control. But she let him out, and he took off like a shot and ran three huge circles in her yard, and then ran right over to me and sat down. She was taken aback and I was thinking I was in a science fiction movie. She said, "Wow, he has never done that before. Why don't ya take him for two weeks and if it doesn't work out, just bring him back." Here is where things really got my mind to wonder. I opened up the door to my truck—now mind you, this little dog has never been outside its yard—I looked at the dog and with a total loss of where I was, I just said, "Up" which was the command for Buck to get into his side of truck, and with no hesitation, that little otter-tailed dog jumped into the back seat of my truck and lay down.

There are no words for how my head felt at that point. We arrived home, I let him out, and he just kept charging around in big circles, always coming back over to me. The bond was amazing. The first week I had him I worked hard in my head to find a reason not to keep him, yet, he worked even harder at giving me reasons to want him. I needed a name for him and I decided on "Amos," my grandfather's name and my Dad's middle name. Amos did not like being in a kennel. I figured once he had a taste of freedom, and coming from a bad situation as he had, he would do all he could to escape from the kennel. He scaled a six-foot wall, then an eight-foot wall. He chewed through wood doors and three types of wire fence, and he cried like ten three-year-olds. Yet when he escaped, he would not run away, he just wanted out. So, Nan came up with an idea, we brought Amos into the house, she attached a short lead rope to his collar, and the other end to her as we slept. Once again Amos amazed us by

just gently nudging on rope when he had to go out. In less than one week he was house trained, and in two weeks he was sitting and staying on command.

After a month I decided to take Amos out into the big woods up behind Gregg Lake for a walk as a test of how our commands and discipline were going. He sat next to me, I opened the door, I sprayed some bug spray all around me, I looked down, and Amos was gone. I had not put his lead on and I think I hit him with some spray. I looked and searched and searched, but no Amos. I was mad at myself and after an hour I was feeling sad. I decided to head home and find Nan and we would return to look for him together. I was driving down out of the woods and passed the second house on Brimstone Road and glanced over to my left and there was Amos. As I got out he was just standing there shaking and staring at me. Almost crying, I said: "Here Amos, come on, it's ok." He dropped his butt and ran like a rocket right into my arms. From that moment, Amos and I formed a friendship that to this day has no words to describe it.

I did not do any work with Amos as far as training him for bird hunting because in my mind I think I was afraid he would not be a good bird dog, and I did not want to compare him to Ko-buck. I felt it would be unfair to us both. October rolled around, and one day I decided to grab my shotgun and take a walk along the river, something I had not done in many years. I gave Amos a yell and he jumped into the truck. As we walked along the Con-toocook I kept giving him little commands to stay close to me as he had never been near a big river. We headed around a bend and suddenly two Wood Ducks flushed from the flooded trees. In an automatic reaction from days gone by, I raised my gun and shot instantly, and one duck fell into the river. I looked down and Amos was gone, and when I looked up he was running

full speed towards the river. He hit the bank, dove into the water, swam out to the duck, picked it up, swam to shore, ran up the bank, and came over to me and sat down with the duck held softly in his mouth. I just looked at him, and while I'm not one for crying, there were tears in my eyes. I felt as if I was standing twenty years back with Ko-buck by my side.

It was a revelation. I took to training Amos from that day forward, and he was an amazing learner, excelling at water retrieves, even diving for birds as Ko-buck had done. Once while hunting with two friends who had older retrievers, we shot some fine big Canadian geese. I had left Amos in my truck as he had never worked geese before. The two other dogs would not retrieve the big birds because they had never had to go that far in water for retrieving geese. That is, they would swim to the birds but would not bring them back. I said, "Let's give Amos a go," and I sat him down, gave him his command, and as if he had done it a hundred times before, he swam out, got a bird, and brought it back to me. Back out—back in—back out—back in! Amos retrieved all the floating geese. We all shouted on the shore like he had hit a grand slam.

I could go on and on about his hunting, but I will finish this story with not just the bond of a man and a dog, but the thought that losing something does not mean that you can never have it again, that you can never heal, feel, or hope. When I was young I had a life full of some amazing people and experiences. But life gives and life takes, and we should never expect to relive the past. But I was lucky that I could feel again that amazing sense of love, companionship and ease. Amos is not Ko-buck, but Amos has taught me to see more blue in the sky, he has been so much more than just an amazing bird dog and friend, he has proven that there can be a second life. ■

TUTTLE LIBRARY NEWS

Lynne Lawrence, Laurie Cass-Griggs, Melissa Lawless

Programs

- Saturday March 21 • Book Signing with author/illustrator Hope Phillips
- April 20-24 • Drop-In Craft during ConVal's Spring Break
- Saturday May 9 • Mom's Muffin Morning

Closings

Monday May 25 Memorial Day

Antrim Poetry Challenge

Help us celebrate Spring at the James A. Tuttle Library; in April we're bringing back the Antrim Poetry Challenge! Open to children of all ages, you may submit a typed or handwritten poem to the Library with the theme of "Spring." We will add the best ones to a book that will circulate in the children's room. We'd even like to see your black and white artwork about "Spring" for consideration as illustrations for the book.

Mom's Muffin Morning

Celebrate Mom and join us for "Mom's Muffin Morning" on Saturday, May 9 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. when we will have complimentary coffee, muffins and juice. Spend time at the Library relaxing with Mom and enjoy a light snack.

Book Signing

Antrim's own author/illustrator Hope Phillips will be at the Library on March 21 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. signing copies of her latest children's book, *The Amazing Manny*. Manny is a special Guinea Pig who can do amaz-

ing things! Could he be an artist, a super hero or even win a marathon? Is he a king of a castle, or a famous musician in a band? Pick up a signed copy of Hope Phillip's new book and find out what makes Manny the Guinea Pig so amazing.

Seeds Are Back

Calling all gardeners! The snow's getting deeper—temperatures are plummeting—so it's time to THINK SPRING. For the second year, the Tuttle Library will be running a seed-lending program. If you missed it last spring, you want to be sure to stop in this year. We will have a fresh supply of heirloom and open-pollinated vegetable and flower seeds, as well as lots of gardening books and reference sheets. Antrim residents will be able to "check out" seeds (don't worry—no overdues), plant them, and enjoy the harvest. At the end of the season, let a few plants go to seed, harvest the seeds and return them to the library. The seeds will be stored over the winter and then "loaned" again in the spring. As these varieties continue to be planted in Antrim they will, over time, adapt to our area's growing conditions and provide varied and nutritious vegetables and herbs for the community.

There is an ever-increasing awareness of the importance of eating healthy, locally grown, non-genetically-modified food. The Tuttle Library wants to be part of that movement, and we want to involve as many local gardeners as we can. Seeds should ar-

rive in early March. Watch for our seed display at the library; we will put a notice in the Messenger and the Villager when they arrive.

The Biggest News in Publishing Since Harry Potter first waved a wand...

Second novels are notoriously difficult. Can a first-time author live up to a blockbuster debut? Can the inflated expectations of the reading public, and the critics, possibly be met? Imagine the pressure if your first novel wins a Pulitzer, sells 40 million copies, and has been assigned reading for every high school student in America. Fifty-five years after we all fell in love with Atticus Finch and Scout and Boo Radley, Harper Lee's second novel, *Go Set a Watchman*, is scheduled to be published this summer. One publisher has already called it the best-selling book of 2015.

The book features Scout Finch as an adult, returning to Maycomb to visit her father, Atticus. It purportedly was written **before** *To Kill a Mockingbird*, but the manuscript was lost. Lee herself, now deaf and blind and residing in an assisted living facility, has termed it a "pretty decent effort." As in *Mockingbird*, Scout will deal with personal and political issues as she strives for a deeper understanding of her father and the small town in which she grew up.

If you are as excited about this news as the library staff, come on down to the Tuttle Library and put your name on the waiting list. □

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The holiday season always brings a flurry of activities. With holiday music playing in the background, a number of us decorated the AASC's tree while another group worked on a holiday craft project. There was a wonderful turnout for the annual Holiday party. Joanie Blood and members of the Board beautifully decorated The Center. As always, the food was delicious and the music provided by Ray Sweeney put all of us in a festive mood.

For the Festival of Trees this year, AASC Board members converted a tree into a large, jolly snowman, which, according to the librarians, brought delight to young and old alike.

Trips: The AASC is fortunate in having Jim Burnham, a retired professional driver, volunteer to drive the Antrim Town Bus so that seniors can be transported safely and comfortably to events. In addition to the trips already mentioned, we also went to a Fisher Cats' baseball game in Manchester and a fantastic fireworks display by Atlas Fireworks.

AASC Yard Sale: Under the capable direction of Nancy Burnham, the AASC put on another successful yard sale during Antrim's Home and Harvest Days. The AASC does not have membership dues so we rely on fundraisers, such as this, to fill our coffers.

Plans In The Making: 1.) Inviting people who are working on individual craft projects including knitting, quilting, crocheting, sketching to come together, at a specific day and time, to enjoy each other's company while they work. 2.) Winter bowling expeditions, the first of which took place on January 30. 3.) A Reminiscing group including discussions of persons, places and things over time. 4.) A Current Affairs discussion group. All upcoming events will be posted on the town of Antrim's website.

Members of the AASC Board of Directors: Marcia Ullman, Chairperson; Sandy Snow, past Chairperson; Jim Burnham, Treasurer; Stephen Ullman, Recording Secretary; Barbara Wells, Nancy Burnham and Ron Haggett. After five years of dedicated service, Dennis Minichiello resigned from the AASC Board of Directors last Fall. All of us miss him immensely!

Upcoming Event: AASC Annual Meeting—Tuesday, April 14 at 9:30 a.m. We will elect officers for the next two years. We hope you will consider running for office. If you are interested, please stop by the AASC, where you will find a sign-up sheet with descriptions of each office.

If you do not already belong to the AASC, we would be delighted to have you join us. Just stop by the Center during our regular hours and request a, "Welcome Packet." If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call Marcia Ullman at 588-2005. ■

A SLEEP OVER WITH GRANDMA

Susan Ellsworth

I remember having a sleep over with Grandma. Grandma's bedroom was in the front of the house. It was a very bright and sunny room. It had two big windows that would light up her room in early morning and most of the day. I remember her bed had wooden boards under the mattress and box spring to help with her back problems. It was different to sleep on such a hard bed, but the sound of her Big Ben clock on the night table ticking next to the bed would lull me to sleep. I remember the smell of Ben Gay ointment filling the air. I liked the smell as it reminded me of grandma. Grandma and I would lie in bed talking about many things. She would tell me stories of her childhood and ask me what was happening in my life. She would share her great wisdom with me that I found very helpful throughout my life. She told me never to put a cigarette in my mouth and then I wouldn't have to try to quit smoking like my parents. She called them dirty "stink weeds." She told me no boy would want to kiss me, and if he did it would taste like a smelly ashtray. She told me not to use bad language because it would reflect on my family and upbringing, that people would think my family spoke like that too. I listened to grandma's words. She told me she loved me very much and would never say

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New Beginnings and Special Dates

Sharon Dowling, Music Director

Antrim's First Presbyterian Church has been involved in a process called "New Beginnings" for a year. To say that the organized Christian church in America is in decline—despite the occasional Mega church or even the new Pope—is just acknowledging the truth. What we have found is that all organizations share the similar histories of rise, decline and decline. We must discover a new vision, a new mission, a reason for existing now in our community. We have also learned that the Mission is not the Building, and vice versa.

Our beautiful, historical, Victorian building is basically a money pit, and we are fast running out. With a tiny, aging congregation in a community of empty-nesting-baby-boomers, many of whom describe themselves as "spiritual, not religious," we can no longer rely on the old Membership Model of attracting people and somehow keeping them active and involved and contributing the amounts of money needed to heat, maintain and utilize all that inefficient square footage. Our choices after the assessment and the training and the small group discussions, pretty much came down to these three:

- 1) Continue to do what we have been doing, eventually run out of money, and Presbytery helps close the church. This is the easiest, head in the sand, choice.
- 2) Make a decision to close the church right now with the help of Presbytery, and put whatever funds we have toward a mission project somewhere in the world.
- 3) Work together to find a new mission and new vision using the "Discipleship" model. This means finding out what unmet needs exist in our community, decide what we might be able to do to meet some of those we feel most called to address, and use the meeting space to be the place where we are fed spiritually while taking love and the Christian lifestyle that Jesus embodied to help our fellow humans. Not with an eye towards enrollment in the congregation, but towards setting the example of love, justice, mercy, and spiritual growth.

Our New Beginnings task force is trying to discover the unmet needs in our community, and also find ways to be better stewards of our funds. As we continue to gather information and engage our congregation in further discussion, we are praying that God's plan for us becomes clear. We always invite the community to visit, and we intend to create new relationships outside our doors. Feel free to join in the discussion.

Important dates for our worship late winter and spring, Lent through Easter: Palm Sunday will be back in the Sanctuary with beautiful music and moving ritual, March 29 at 10:30 a.m. Holy Week services are Maundy Thursday, April 2 at 7:00 p.m. preceded by a light meal of bread and

broth at 6:15 p.m., Good Friday, April 3 at 7:00 p.m., and Easter Sunrise service, on the Baptist Church lawn, with Pastor Jan Howe leading worship at April 5 at 6:30 a.m. Regular Easter service at 10:30 a.m. will include Communion this year.

Please note that Celtic Evensong, normally held on the first Sunday of the month, will not be held on Easter Sunday. No Evensong will be held in April this year. We will have Celtic Evensong as usual on March 1, May 3, and June 7 at 5:30 p.m. Hard to believe, we will barely need the candles, as the sanctuary will still be filled with light at that time! Summer break will follow, and there may be some major changes regarding Celtic Evensong beginning again next October. Stay tuned! ■

CHILD'S PLAY

Schatze Moore

One Friday last fall my grandson not quite two years old came to spend the day with me. We started off with breakfast. I think I made a cheese omelet, accompanied by some halved green grapes and slices of banana. When Milo is hungry he is a good eater and focused on filling his belly. I love to watch him eat, but as he starts to fill up he likes to share, a bite for him, but maybe he would rather give it to me, or maybe the dog. He likes to use his utensils in some interesting ways, but he also likes to use his fingers. I am relaxed as a grandmother about mess. I like to see him handling his food. I think it is important to play with your food. As a cook I get to have that pleasure all the time.

After breakfast we have to wash up: faces, hands, table top, and high chair tray, and of course we have to wash the dishes. Milo loves water play and bubbles, so once I am done washing the dishes I give him a clean sink with warm water and bubbles to play with. He stands on a stool and I sit right behind him and he plays. We wear bubble hats and bubble cheeks and noses and we blow the bubbles and scoop them with plastic containers. Then we say "bye bye bubbles" and watch them go down the drain. We put the stool away and we brush our teeth.

Milo loves to be outside, but before we go outside we have to get dressed, and for him that includes a diaper change. He loves to make an escape during that process, and that means a game of hide and seek, chase and capture. Also before we can get outside, I have to lift him up so that he can flip all the light switches up and down. We also have to take a peek at the fan on the front porch and turn it on and off. Next, we climb the stairs, and I might add that he is an expert at climbing. He climbs up and he climbs down. Once upstairs we visit each room. He spreads out my yoga mats. He does a downward dog and a plank and I do the same. After that we gather up all the stuffed bears and pile them onto my bed, he climbs up after them and gets cozy for a short

✍️ — continued on page 29

ANTRIM'S WORLD WAR II SPOTTER CABIN

Frank and Joan Gorga

Some may remember that the AHS float for the 2013 Home and Harvest parade was centered around the World War II “spotter’s cabin” that was once perched up the hill from G.H. Caughey’s house on Clinton Road, across from the Stone Church and near the Lily Pond.

Many people think that these spotter cabins were used to watch for and provide warning of enemy aircraft. While they may have served

this function secondarily, their primary function was to watch for routine air traffic in the days before radar. Spotters at these cabins noted the passing of all aircraft: time, direction of flight, and type of plane. If a plane did not arrive at its destination as scheduled, the information provided by these spotters was crucial in directing search efforts.

It might interest readers to know that Antrim’s spotter’s cabin is still intact. It is used as a bunkhouse at our camp on Gregg Lake. This photo of the cabin is from March 2013. G.H. and his sons, including Joan’s father Winslow (a.k.a. “Skeezie”), built the camp in the late 1930’s.

The spotter’s cabin was built in 1942. We don’t know exactly when it was moved to Gregg Lake. Ben Pratt has memories of the move from when he was a teenager. He tells us that the structure was packaged up neatly with the floor on the bottom, the collapsed four walls in the middle and the roof on top. This package was trucked to the lake and deposited in the water. According to Ben, the attempt to tow this “raft” down the lake with a motorboat ended in failure; the structure kept trying to submarine. Plan B involved building a bracket and mounting the motor directly on the structure. This was successful, and the cabin was reassembled on the southeastern shore of Gregg Lake, where it stands today.

At some point thereafter, the structure was “improved” by adding particleboard walls to the interior of the cabin. (Bob Caughey, another of G.H.’s sons, worked on the early development of particleboard.) Some years ago, we decided to remove the particleboard and decades of accumulated rodent nests between the studs. We discovered a number of messages to the spotters, which had been painted on the interior walls. The exposed walls also showed that the spotter’s cabin was likely built from lumber milled from trees downed in the hurricane of 1938, as was the Caughey camp. So many trees fell in the hurricane that many became beetle or ant eaten as they lay on the ground, and lumber milled from them was of lower quality. ■



COMMUNITY GARDEN

Renee Mercier-Gerritsen, Antrim Grange

Antrim Grange is discussing the possibility of establishing a community garden in town and is asking for help and input from citizens. Here are some issues to consider:

1. Find a suitable piece of land, preferably close to town, with a convenient water supply, of which the owner would be willing to allow the Grange and designated community members to use on a seasonal basis.
2. Ascertain how many people are interested in having a plot in a community garden.
3. Would users be willing to pay a small fee, if asked to do so?
4. There have been previous attempts to establish a community garden; what have been the pitfalls/challenges in making this a success?

Let us know what your ideas and suggestions are for a community garden by attending a March 18 meeting at the Town Hall at 7:00 p.m. or you can email me at renee_mercier@yahoo.com or private message me on Facebook with any thoughts, answers or concerns. Thank you for your support of the Grange and the Community Garden project. ■

CELTIC EVENSONG

March 1 • May 3 • June 7

Presbyterian Church

5:30 pm

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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT AVENUE A

Heidi Schultz, Teen Center Coordinator

Mark your calendars for an Avenue A Music and FUNdraising Event! At 7 p.m. on Saturday March 14 local band *Short Notice* will take the stage at Antrim Town Hall. *Short Notice* is a New Hampshire rock band playing covers from the 70's to today's hits. Admission will be by donation, and the money raised will help fund a karaoke machine, field trips and supplies. We are grateful to Sue Smith for organizing this event, and the band for donating their time and talent.

Calling All Teens! Avenue A is partnering with the HOPE Committee to host the March 19 Antrim Community Supper. Contact Teen Center Coordinator Heidi Schultz for more information and to volunteer.

Friday night open hours Avenue A is open most Friday evenings from 6:30–9:00 p.m. and is chaperoned by Heidi or qualified volunteers from the community. All teens must sign-in when they first arrive, but are then allowed to come and go. Teens play foosball and pool, listen to music, interact and offer ideas for activities. Often there is special programming during open hours, such as karaoke, pizza night, or a band playing.

Avenue A Club meets Wednesdays after school from 2:15–3:45 p.m. and is an opportunity for students of Great Brook Middle School to use the Avenue A Teen Center facilities, take advantage of programming and spend time with friends, in a supervised environment. The club is a mix of guided “free time” and activities. Youth play pool or foosball, board and card games, listen to music, do homework and spend time with friends, supervised by Heidi and/or a volunteer.

On occasion, activities will be provided by teachers and nonprofit groups from the local area, including The Harris Center for Conservation Education, Audubon Society, local musicians, and artists.

Registration is required before students can participate. Students meet at the Great Brook School entrance at dismissal and are escorted down to Avenue A, and at 3:45 they walk home or are picked up. Your child's first visit to “try out” the program is free. If your child joins, there is a fee of \$15 per month paid to The Grapevine. As with all Grapevine programs please let us know if the fee is a hardship, we'll work it out.

Registration forms are available at The Grapevine, the Before and After School Club and Avenue A, by calling 588-2620 or emailing Heidi at Avenue A.

Other Offerings at Avenue A

Free college search and financial aid counseling is available by appointment through Avenue A.

Free tutoring services are available by appointment at Avenue A in the subjects of Math, English, and Chemistry.

Field Trips. We aim to offer field trips through Avenue A at least once every summer. Our first field trip in August 2014 to the New England Aquarium and Quincy Market in Boston was a great success.

The Avenue A Facility

Avenue A is a multi-use facility available for meetings, parties, classes, music and other events. Contact Heidi for more information. Groups currently using the Avenue A facility:

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) and **Al-Anon**- AA meets weekly at Avenue A, on Sundays at 6:00 p.m., Mondays at 5:30 p.m. and Fridays at 10:00 a.m. Al-Anon meets Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. Drop-ins are welcome and encouraged.

Heard It Through the Grapevine Open Mic. Adults enjoy an evening of local music the first Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m. in a coffee house atmosphere.

HOPE Committee. This citizen group formed to build awareness about substance misuse and increase prevention, education, and resources in the local area. Contact Marcia Ullman 588-2205 for more information.

The Church of Christ meets Sundays.

Avenue A Wish List: laptop computer or tablet, HD TV, guitar stand, electric guitar and amp, acrylic paint supplies, food donations, volunteers.

Volunteering at Avenue A

In order to stay viable and offer teens, middle-schoolers and the community a place to congregate, Avenue A needs volunteers to help run our programs! We need volunteers for open hours, specific programming, and on field trips. If you have an interest in working with youth and providing a service for our community, please contact Heidi Schultz at 588-2620 or avenueateencenter@gmail.com.

We welcome your comments! Thank you for your support.



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A FOUR-YEAR OLD NORTH BRANCH FREE-RANGE CHILD

Joan Gorga

I moved to Antrim in 1956, just a week before my first birthday. I know that means I'm not a native, and will never be able to speak with authority at Town Meeting, but I did nonetheless manage to develop a certain fondness for my adoptive home. My father, Winslow "Skeezie" Caughey, brought us back to his hometown to found the Monadnock Research Institute with several partners. We settled into the servants' quarters at the old Flint estate up at the North Branch, where my older brother, George, and I had 500 acres of fields, apple orchards, woods, ponds and gardens to play in. Our parents did set a few rules. One was that we were to be absolutely silent if we had to enter the main part of the

house, where the library and administrative offices of the Monadnock Research Institute were located. It was a challenge to slide down those long, curved wooden bannisters from the second floor without making a sound, but we occasionally succeeded. Crash landings at the bottom were hard to muffle, though. The other rule was that we were not to go down the bank to the tumbling North Branch River. Amazingly, I don't think we ever pushed that rule, although we did enjoy strolling down River Road and peering over the edge.

We had lived in a tiny cape on the outskirts of Baltimore, where I slept in a basket tucked up the attic stairs, although I don't remember the indignity of it. In this new expansive house, George and I shared a large room under the eaves. Our parents seemed very far away. One night I decided to test to see how loud I would have to cry to get them to come. I started in with a low whimper and slowly escalated the sound level. Suddenly, while still at a very low level, I heard my mother coming. What to do? I didn't need anything, and she'd be mad at me! So I pretended to be asleep, and she went away. From this experiment, I learned not only that help would come quickly if needed, but also, and perhaps more importantly, that my mother could be fooled! This knowledge became quite useful later in my errant childhood.

There was a big wood cookstove in the kitchen. One spring my mother (a Southerner) decided to boil down some of the sap we had tapped from our maple trees. Much of Antrim got a good laugh when the wallpaper peeled off the walls, but my mother wasn't too pleased! When we moved away, that cookstove was carried across Gregg Lake straddled between two boats and set up in the old family camp in Bass Cove, and I still enjoy cooking on it.

My mother was trying to teach me to brush my teeth properly, with up and down strokes. George helpfully advised me that I would be arrested if I brushed in circles. One morning

when I was feeling particularly rebellious, I rounded out the corners just a little bit to see what would happen. I was so

terrified about being arrested that I hid in the closet under the back stairs for the rest of the day so the police couldn't find me. My mother did find me, however, and brought me some food, but I refused to tell her why I was there, since she might, after all, be on the side of the law and turn me in! After hiding for the entire day, I began to hope that I might get away with such a transgression this time... maybe I hadn't rounded the corners too much. But I also began to realize that it wasn't worth it to do things like that, since the whole day had been wasted in that dark closet.



George and Joan (left and right) with cousins Bill and Suzy Renda

The adults were all busy with the business of the Monadnock Research Institute, and my mother soon had our younger brother Byron to care for, so George and I spent our time exploring outdoors, mostly by ourselves. One of the other scientists, George Kleinspehn, had two children about the same age as we were, and they lived in the old farmhouse on the estate, but they weren't quite as adventurous as we were, and often wanted to stay home with their mother. George and I never saw much point in that!

The frog pond was an endless source of fascination. George told me it was very deep, and although I did have trouble reconciling that with the fact that I barely got wet the time I fell in, George also insisted that he had saved my life by pulling me out, and I was forever indebted to him. After all, as he said, there might have been a frog in there!

Once when I was three and George was five, we ventured way on past the Muzzey Place and up what is now Stacey Hill Road. At some point I realized that I was desperately in need of a bathroom. We hurried back towards home, down the road, past the chapel, past the gatehouse where Mr. Litton, the gardener, lived, and past the small brick former one-room schoolhouse where my mother's parents stayed on extended visits. Unfortunately, we didn't make it all the way back to our house in time. Not surprisingly, my mother wasn't too pleased with me, and as she cleaned me up, she asked why we hadn't stopped to use the bathroom at Grandma's house. Grandma and Grandpa had a bathroom?! I was astonished to find out that sophisticated old people like them had to go to the bathroom, too.

Someone's cows were pastured in the apple orchard; I don't remember whose. In the fall when it was time to harvest the apples (our growing family filled up on applesauce year-round), it was my job to keep the cows away from the

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ladders my parents stood on to pick. I tried to be ferocious, since I did feel a certain responsibility to keep my parents safe, but I didn't want to risk getting the cows mad at me. I liked those cows. They would come over to me when I sat on the stonewall and lick my dangling toes and let me pat them. Early one morning the phone rang. It was a crank phone on a party line, and we had to listen for the right ring. Ours was two longs and a short. My father announced that a red cow was missing, and we were to keep an eye out for it. I had never seen a red cow, and left immediately, determined to be the first to find it!

My brothers had a great set of toy trucks; I only had one, a fully adjustable, working road grader. I was greatly attached to it and built many roads around the campus all by myself. I would even occasionally allow one of my brothers to borrow it, if they offered enough in return. When we moved back to Maryland in the fall of 1959, I couldn't find it. The next year we came back to visit our old house, which had become the Administration Building of the new Nathaniel Hawthorne College, and I was thrilled to spy my old road grader under a bush near the front of the building. I was whole again!

George and I are happy to have been free-range children of the North Branch. We still love to explore the wilds of Antrim, although we've both settled just a little south of the Branch, and I no longer believe much of what he says. ▣

moment, then he rolls around and kicks his legs and jumps up and down on the bed, and once or twice falling off. In the bathroom upstairs I keep a full watering can in the bathtub, and he loves to pour that water. Sometimes his pour goes everywhere, and he gets wet, I get wet, and the floor gets wet. But what is mopping up but another chance for water play.

Finally I am able to entice him back down the stairs with the promise of going outside. I gather up some things I want to take outside with us: a warm sweater, a hat, water in his sippy cup, a snack, and a blanket because we are going to go for a walk. Milo will ride in his stroller and I will push him. It is a beautiful September day, and we are going to stay out as long as we can. I have a destination in mind, Shiloh Acres where our good friends the Sudsburys live. They have machines, dogs, cats, horses, and chickens. We are going to have a great time. On our way we found so much to stop and look at. On Buttercup Lane we saw a child about Milo's age to wave at and call "hello" to. On West Street we spent some time trying to coax Trish Murphy's horse to come closer. We found some grapevine loaded with ripe deep purple grapes that we could sample. Old Hancock Road found us at our destination, with Dale and her dogs to greet us. We wandered around, we found water and mud, we looked at all the horses and listened to their stories, we watched the dogs play and the chickens peck. On the ground we found loose chicken feathers that could be picked up and carried home in a small hand.

Once we are back at my house I discover that Milo has fallen asleep. I park the stroller under the Arborvitae tree, spread the blanket underneath it and do my best to lay Milo on the blanket without waking him. Perhaps I will be able to get a little reading in while he naps, but perhaps not because his eyes are wide open and he is looking at me. Let's have something to drink and a snack instead and let the afternoon activities begin because there is the Praying Mantis to visit with, the stonewall to walk across, the orchards to walk through, and also the woodshed. Milo will need to spend some time on Poppy's tractor pushing all the buttons and moving the levers. A visit to Gam's is never complete without a trip to the garden. We will have to pick some tomatoes and green beans and we will snack on them. He doesn't seem to care for the taste of the green cherry tomatoes, so he puts them in my mouth. The two birdbaths will need his attention. He gives them a good scrubbing and then we fill them with clean water. When Poppy comes home we will finish up the day with a roll in the grass. Milo rolling in the grass, Poppy rolling in the grass, and Gam rolling in the grass. I am thinking by now that child's play is hard work but fun. Oh, so much fun! A few days later, I asked my daughter if she thought Milo had as much fun that Friday as I did. ▣

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THE GRAPEVINE

Kristen Vance

Baby Boom

We recently added a second “Better Beginnings for Babies” group offering play, songs and social time for babies and parents with Parenting Educator Nancy Macalaster, MA. “The room was becoming too small for all of our babies,” explains Nancy, “especially since some were beginning to crawl and toddle.” The groups include informal discussion on current topics of interest to parents of young children from birth to about 18 months of age.

According to Nancy, former Family Programs Director at Sophia’s Hearth in Keene and a resident of Hancock, past parents say that the group brought them new information and lasting friends. “What I like most about the baby groups is that they bring parents together and build a community. The baby groups offer a space for parents to give voice to their experiences of parenting the young child—the good, the challenges and the day to day.”

Parents with babies who are crawling and young toddlers meet on Wednesdays from 10:00–11:30 a.m. and parents with younger babies and newborns meet on Wednesdays from 1:00–2:30 p.m. Expectant parents are always welcome. Call 588-2620 for more information.

Free Tax Prep

IRS-certified tax preparer Larry Schwartz is providing free tax preparation at The Grapevine on Mondays from 3:00–6:00 p.m. through April 13. All returns will be filed electronically. Call The Grapevine 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:

- Fri. Mar 13: Rick and Diane’s all day
 - Sun. Mar 15: Hancock Inn – Sunday Dinner,
 - Sat. Mar 21: The Common Place Eatery, Bennington – Breakfast 7:00–11:00 a.m.
 - Thurs. Mar 26: Fiddlehead’s Café, Hancock – all day
- Please support The Grapevine by enjoying a meal!

The People’s Service Exchange

Looking to expand your support network? Have time to give and want to make a difference? Join a group sharing their time and talents while saving money and making friends. The People’s Service Exchange is based on the Time Banking model where 1 Hour of Service = 1 Time Dollar. Get 3 Time Dollars just for joining and then spend them on a service, save them for another time or donate them to a neighbor or The Grapevine. Visit pse-nh.org to see our new look with expanded networking possibilities or call Nancy at 588-2620.

Workshops and Parenting Education

Collaborative Communication: How we get there together. Saturday, March 21st 8:30 to 12:30 p.m. This promises to be an engaging interactive workshop with parenting educators Carol Lunan and Nancy Macalaster. We will explore our patterns of communication with others, the challenges of listening and communicating effectively, and ways to increase our engagement in order to better understand what the other is saying. This workshop will serve all sorts of relationships between adults, children and teens, and is useful for parents, partners, caregivers and teachers. \$45 per person (please let us know if this is a hardship). We’re sorry, there is no childcare for this program. If childcare is an issue for you please let us know, we may be able to help you arrange it.

Grandparents Parenting Grandchildren. Saturday, March 28th from 10:00–12:00 noon. Nationwide some 2.5 million grandparents are parenting their grandchildren and not without a host of challenges and issues that come with the job, including mixed emotions, financial burdens, health concerns and keeping pace with the children. Join Carol Lunan for brunch and a discussion on the joys and challenges grandparents face, hear from other grandparents and learn about some of the resources and supports available. This workshop is FREE and with interest may become an ongoing group. Call to let us know you are coming 588-2620. If childcare is an issue please let us know.

NEW! Parenting the school-age child. Due to several requests, parenting educator Carol Lunan is hosting a lunchtime series for parents of children in elementary school. Bring your lunch if you wish and join in a facilitated discussion on parenting. Topics will be those of interest to the group. With interest this may become an ongoing group. Wednesdays 12:30–2:00 p.m. March 4, 11, 18 and 25. \$40 for all four sessions, please let us know if the fee is a hardship.

Grapevine Events

Spring Walk for Families Sat. May 9. Tune up your strollers, lace up your walking shoes and get your pledges for The Grapevine’s 11th Annual Spring Walk for Families on Saturday May 9th. 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 9 to register and walk in support of our families and community.

Coming soon...Black Fly Community Art Show, Saturday, June 6th 10:00-12:00 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 Carol or Amy 588-2620.

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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 financial assistance. Call Carol if you have a donation. Thinking about preschool next fall? Now is the time to visit The Learning Vine, give us a call to arrange it.

**Summer is just around the corner...
Backyard Summer Adventures**

It's not too early to think about summer activities for your child. The Grapevine staff is planning these fun and enriching programs now:



Summer Backyard Adventures for 4 ½ to 6 year olds – 2 one-week sessions July/August

Backyard Science Camp for 7 to 9 year olds

NEW! Better Beginnings Backyard Adventure for parents and children up to age five. Call for more information and to pre-register.

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 snowstorms. Call if you need wood, if you have wood to donate, or to volunteer for the 2015-16 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

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, Avenue A Teen Center and Senior Wellness. 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 at www.GrapevineNH.org and Friend us on Facebook! ■

A Sleep Over with Grandma continued from page 24

or do anything to hurt me. She was there to guide me though life as long as she was alive. She was my best buddy and I trusted her judgment. When it was time to sleep we would say prayers and then give each other a kiss good night and tell each other we loved each other.

In the morning the sun would come through the window and wake us up. I would look over at her china closet near the window and look at all the beautiful art work she had taped on the glass doors from all of her nine grandchildren, including me. There were hand-drawn pictures from the older kids and coloring book pictures from the younger. Grandma loved them and displayed them all equally. When I got out of bed I would go over to the china cabinet and look inside to see all the pictures and magical figurines behind the glass. I remember the little card taped to the front bottom door in purple with gray writing. It said "KEEP SMILING." It's what grandma always did.

I would ask grandma if she could please open the door so I could look inside. She always said, "Yes, but only for a little while and you can't touch anything, agreed?"

There were so many wonderful things to see. There was a statue of three monkeys: one covered his ears, one his eyes, and the last his mouth. There were china figurines of Tinker Bell, Mother Goose, puppies, kittens and so much more. I wanted to stay there for hours but I agreed it was just for a little while and the time was up. Then we would go into the kitchen where she would make me homemade crepes with apples and powdered sugar for breakfast. She always made me feel special and loved. After eating I would think about the next time I would do a sleep over with grandma. I can't wait to do this with my own grandchildren. ■

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Ask about our Daily Specials

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HOMEMADE MEATBALLS
(CAJUN AND REGULAR)

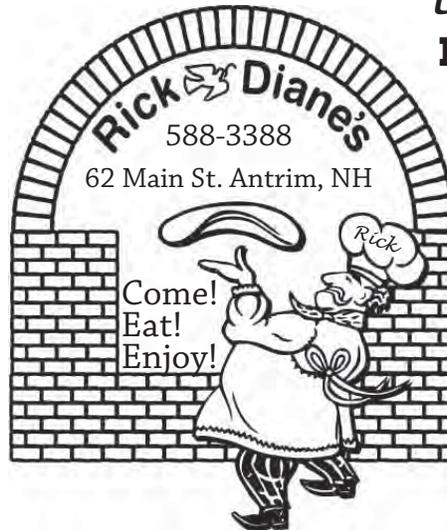
RICKS SPICY CHILI

AS WELL AS OTHER CAJUN
AND SPICY DISHES

OPEN

Sunday 12am - 8pm
Tue - Thur 11am - 9pm
Friday 11am - 10pm
Saturday 11am - 9pm
Closed Mondays

GREAT BRICK OVEN PIZZA



Don't Forget our...

FRESHEST SEAFOOD

Hot Steak & Cheese Subs

Home Made Onion Rings

Delicious Deli Subs

SPICY BUFFALO WINGS

BIG BURGERS

Calzones Garden Salads

10% DISCOUNT For all Fire & Police Dept. Personnel and Seniors 65+

* PLUS TAX

The *Limrik*
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Antrim, NH 03440

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