

# The Limrik

## A Quarterly Journal

For, by and about the people of Antrim.

Vol. 24 #4  
September 2015

### KRISTEN OLSON VANCE LEAVES THE GRAPEVINE

Lyman Gilmore

After eighteen years as its Executive Director, Kristen Vance has left The Grapevine, Antrim's highly successful community service organization. "I'm not retiring, just looking forward to new challenges."

On a warm, sunny afternoon last month, Kristen offered me a cup of tea as we sat in The Grapevine's comfortable living room where parents meet to talk about their children and staff to discuss programs. I asked her about the high and low points of her tenure, and she said that she doesn't think that way, but of the "eighteen years as a process or a continuum."

The process of Kristen's involvement in The Grapevine Family & Community Resource Center began in the summer of 1997 when she and her husband John walked along Main Street to an ice cream shop across from the Library and noticed a Grapevine "Help Wanted" flier posted on a bulletin board. Founded in 1996, the early Grapevine was facilitated by Sydney Smith with one parent-child group of three or four families in the building where Trends of Fashion is now located. Kristen joined Sydney in September 1997, and with a tremendous amount of

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### ETHAN VAILLANCOURT, ANTRIM'S NEWEST POLICE OFFICER

Lyman Gilmore

In his own words, Officer Ethan Vaillancourt "hit the ground running" when he joined the APD May 1<sup>st</sup>. He explained to me that because he had seven years on the large Daytona Beach Police Department as Patrol Officer, Investigation Detective, and SWAT member, he arrived here thoroughly experienced and ready to go.

Ethan graduated from the Hesser College Criminal Justice program in 2006 and went right to the Daytona Police Department where he met an inner city church pastor and developed a commitment for working with inner city poor, and where he met his wife Jessica, then a fitness instructor, now mother to their son, two-and-a-half-year-old Elijah. As Jessica is a fitness instructor and Ethan a Certified Personal Trainer, little Elijah should grow up healthy!

Since he was so engaged in working with the inner city poor, what is it like working in a rural small town like Antrim? "There are poor people here, and their needs are the same." In his desire to help the poor, he describes his "vision" in terms of Matthew: "To serve the least of these."

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### HOME & HARVEST

Sept 18-19

*Nothing Like It!*

Rick Davis

Antrim's 12th Home & Harvest festival will be held **September 18-19**. This year's festival has a big change in that the **Fireworks and Cookout will be on Friday** instead of Saturday. We're trying something new: instead of having so much on Saturday, we are breaking things up. Plan on a great Cookout and Fireworks by Atlas on Friday. On Saturday we will have crafters and vendors up and down Main Street. We still have spaces; call Brad or Ella at 588-2598.

The Fun and Games, great for all ages, include a Bouncy House and a giant Climbing Wall with Bungy Jumping, always a thrill! Our giant Parade keeps getting bigger and better with marching bands from Conval and Hillsborough. There's still plenty of time for you to enter a float. At 1:00 p.m. something brand new, "Rick's Rockin' Regatta," a race behind town hall. You can sign up at Bank of New Hampshire where Manager Rose Novotny came up with this name as a thank you to Rick & Diane's. We're still doing a hand-toss pizza challenge for Muscular Dystrophy, fun for all ages.

Home & Harvest is Antrim's biggest event of the year, and thanks to so many great volunteers and sponsors and the Antrim Police Department, all of whom truly make Home & Harvest "Nothing Like It." □

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## — SUBSCRIPTIONS —

Subscriptions are also available at \$15 per year. Please make check payable to the Antrim Limrik and mail order to:

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## — ADVERTISING FEES —

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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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:lyman-gil@comcast.net).

## — CREDITS —

Photos courtesy of Lyman Gilmore and Frank Gorga

Asked what he likes about Antrim, Ethan replied, “everyone at the APD is wonderful, and Antrim’s people are warm and welcoming.” As for the most challenging aspect of his job, “the unpredictable calls for service—emergencies like traffic accidents and domestic violence—on top of ongoing criminal investigations.” Chief Lester has said he wanted to hire someone with thorough investigation experience after Detective LePine resigned, and Ethan seems perfect for the job.

Being a police officer often involves dangerous confrontations, and such danger must cause fear. Ethan says that in these situations extensive training leads to effective automatic responses and the officer doesn’t have time to think about fear, although sometimes the fear comes later. I am comforted to know that Ethan is a Certified Firearms Instructor.

For relaxation Ethan enjoys hiking, working-out, and hunting deer and bear with a traditional bow. He has played drums since high school, and he is a member of the non-denominational Zeal Church’s band in Manchester.

Welcome to Antrim Ethan Vaillancourt! □

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## JOAN GORGA, LIMRIK ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Lyman Gilmore

Joan Gorga has agreed to become Associate Editor of the Antrim *Limrik*.

Joan's Antrim presence goes back sixty years. Her father, Dr. Winslow "Skeezie" Caughey, was born in Antrim, and in 1956 he and his wife Helen "co-founded the Monadnock Research Institute in Antrim's North Branch, where he synthesized porphyrins as potential anti-cancer agents. Their young children enjoyed roaming the 500-acre campus, complete with apple orchard, cows, and frog pond." Joan's childhood fascination with nature led her to a Dartmouth Ph.D. in biochemistry and a postdoctoral fellowship at Harvard, followed by a distinguished scientific research and teaching career.

Anticipating retirement, in 2010 Joan and her husband Frank Gorga, also a biochemist, bought a house on Antrim's Brimstone Corner Road in the forest west of Gregg Lake, and when they retired two years ago they began living there full time. As an example of the saying, "You can take the person out of science, but you can't take the science out of the person," since moving back to Antrim Joan has taken up the search for rare wildflowers for the NH Natural Heritage Bureau, the eradication of invasive plants such as Purple Loosestrife for the New Hampshire Lakes Association and the New England Wild Flower Society, the study of nesting loons on Gregg Lake where the NH Loon Preservation Committee has designated Joan and Frank official Loon Preservation Volunteers, and the successful grafting of Baldwin apple branches onto her Delicious apple tree.

When she is not doing science, she is Chair and Secretary of Antrim's Parks and Recreation Commission, a Board member of the Antrim Historical Society, and a member of the Antrim Bennington Lions Club. When she's not doing those things, she plays a mean folk ukulele, takes voice lessons, and has begun writing her own music. "I have written lyrics for two songs, one of which I sang (and played on the ukulele) at the memorial service for my father. The other I wrote at an "Arts and Birding" Audubon camp on Hog Island off the Maine coast."

On Gregg Lake you may catch her paddling her "yacht" which actually is a beautiful cedar canoe she built from scratch.

Joan has assisted with this issue of the *Limrik*, and I shall help her with the December issue. Then, after ten happy years as Managing Editor, I shall formally retire as editor while keeping a close relationship with the *Limrik* as contributor, staff member, and handy man. □



## QUIET DINNER AT THE FARM

Sheila Nichols

The best laid schemes o' Mice an' Men ... (apologies to Robert Burns).

My dinner was all ready to pop in the oven as soon as Bill got home from work, fresh filet of Pollock. Our own vegetables would complement this tasty meal, and we were looking forward to a peaceful evening.

First of course come chores, Bill went up to the chicken coop to collect eggs and see that the hens had fresh water and food. Walking back to the house he discovered that one of our beehives had swarmed. If you overlook the distress of losing so many of your bees and just watch the swarm process, it is amazing. Somewhere in the neighborhood of 10,000 bees flow out of the hive and create a cyclone of bees spiraling up into the sky. They congregate on a branch and wait with the queen while scouts look for a new spot for their next hive.

Bees swarm for different reasons, most commonly when the hive becomes overcrowded. The worker bees along with the queen leave the hive in search of a new home. Before this exodus occurs the worker bees make sure they have viable queen cells and food for the remaining bees. One of these queen cells will hatch and the hive will continue. Honeybees as a rule are docile and usually even more so when swarming as they do not have a hive to defend.

This is the time when seasoned beekeepers can collect the swarm and offer them a hive. Collecting several thousand bees from high in a tree is not for those with acrophobia or apiphobia, the fear of heights and bees.

Luckily, we have a local bee resource, Gordon Webber. He has several hives and years of experience. He arrived shortly after we called with his beekeeper suit, a plastic bag, and a temporary hive. Because we did not have a spare hive he would take the

✍️ — continued on page 12

# ANTRIM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Steve Ullman, President

## New Oral History Project

Under the leadership of Kathi Wasserloos, the Antrim Historical Society has embarked on a new project. Here is your invitation from Kathi to participate.

Are you wondering what to talk about with your 'Great Uncle Pete' or your host's 'Aunt Tillie' as you sit around the Thanksgiving table? Do you ever find yourself wishing you knew how to start a conversation when you are in a group of "acquaintances"?

The Antrim Historical Society has just the solution! On Thursday, November 19, 2015, we have invited Maine Oral Historian Jo Radner to conduct a workshop for students at Great Brook School on the art of engaging others in oral history. Students in Maryanne Cullinan's classes will be invited to learn the secrets of eliciting information and of "listening.

At 7:00 p.m. that evening, Thursday, November 19, Jo Radner will give a free presentation on Oral History to the public at the Antrim Presbyterian Church following the Community Supper.

To find out more about Jo Radner, visit her website at [www.joradner.com](http://www.joradner.com) and watch for posters around town highlighting this event.

## Past Programs

On May 16th Antrim residents learned why we New Englanders are so fascinated with the thousands of miles of stonewalls which adorn our landscape. Our speaker was Kevin Gardner a writer, teacher, tradesman, and a lifelong resident of Hopkinton. He has been building stonewalls for forty years, and is the author of *The Granite Kiss: Traditions and Techniques of Building New England Stone Walls*. During his talk, he erected a miniature wall on a tabletop, using tiny stones from a five-gallon bucket. How he could deliver such a lucid, entertaining lecture and simultaneously build an intricate stonewall, was difficult to fathom.

On Sunday, June 21 Dr. Joan Caughey-Gorga and Dr. George Caughey chronicled growing up as "free range children" in North Branch. They looked back on their early years growing up in what was then decidedly rural North Branch. Both described their childhood adventures freely roaming the woods of northern and western Antrim and even reaching faraway Hancock. Both pursued scientific careers perhaps because of their father Winslow's influence. The senior Caughey served as the President of Antrim's Monadnock Research Laboratories which was heavily engaged in cancer research. For several generations, the distinguished, economy-size Caughey family has contributed to Antrim and to the world of scholarship.

On July 26<sup>th</sup>, sixty non-Red Sox watchers crowded the Presbyterian Church to listen to Charles Butterfield's memories of growing up on the Butterfield Farm just north of Clinton Village. Prior to his talk Charles led twenty-five people on a tour of significant sites featured in his new book *Seeking Parmenter*.

In 1800 Amos Parmenter from Framingham, Massachusetts bought 25 acres on the site now known as Butterfield Farm. In subsequent years, Parmenter bought and cleared additional acreage and eventually in 1827 he built a large brick house. Charles's book relates the physical and cultural evolution of Butterfield Farm over the last 215 years.

## Future Meetings

On Saturday September 19<sup>th</sup> during Home and Harvest Days, please look for the Antrim Historical Society booth located as usual in front of the historic Maplehurst Inn. Once again we will be offering our world famous Apple Crisp topped with our low calorie, vanilla ice cream. In addition, we will be selling the much copied, but never equaled AHS

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## SELECTBOARD

Donna Hanson, Antrim Town Administrator

As we get closer to fall and the days get shorter, we say goodbye to summer and that means the budget season is right around the corner.

The Board of Selectmen will be bringing the project on Highland Avenue and lower Pleasant Street to town meeting in March. This project will include new water lines, improved drainage, and road and sidewalk improvements. We have been working with RCAP (Resources for Communities and People) and Southwest Regional Planning Commission on the requirements that need to be satisfied to apply for state or federal grants. This could help offset the cost for this major project. In the coming months we will have discussions with residents who have questions or concerns about how this project will affect them.

We are pleased to announce that Jim Plourde was promoted to fill the position of Road Agent in July. Jim has been working in the Highway Department for the last 5 years. He recently earned the designation of Master Road Scholar from the New Hampshire Roads Scholar Program. The Board of Selectmen offers our congratulations to Jim and look forward to having him lead the Highway Department into the future. The selectmen would like to thank Chip Craig for his contributions to the town as Road Agent and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

After two and a half days of hearings in Concord the Site Evaluation Committee (SEC) voted in favor of taking jurisdiction over the proposed Wind Farm on Tuttle Mountain. This means that Antrim Wind Energy LLC (AWE) has six months to file an application with the SEC. The SEC will hold hearings to decide whether or not they issue a permit to allow the proposed facility to be built.

As always, the BOS look forward to working with you and the community. Please let us know if you have any questions, concerns or comments. Of course, you can always keep in touch with what is going on in town by subscribing to news and notices on the town website: [www.antrimnh.org](http://www.antrimnh.org). Click on "subscribe to news" on the left hand side of the home page and fill in the form. Whenever a new event is posted to the Web site you will receive a copy of that posting in your personal email box, automatically.

Enjoy the last few days of summer and we hope to see everyone at the Home & Harvest Festival September 18-19th. There's still "Nothing Like it!" □

## ELECTIONS 2016

Diane Chauncey, Antrim Town Clerk

In 2016, voters will vote 4 times: the First-in-the-Nation Primary (January), Town Election (March), State Primary (September), and the Presidential Election (November).

How will they affect you? If you are a registered Democrat or Republican, you need not do anything. If you are "Undeclared" (in many states the term is "Independent"), you will want to make sure that after the last Primary you remembered to return to "Undeclared."

Once the January Primary date is set, the Supervisors of the Checklist will hold a session (90 days before the Primary), and that will be the last day that party affiliation can be changed. Unfortunately, there are some voters who do not return to an Undeclared status, and then the only option is to vote with the party that they declared at the last Primary. Don't be disappointed! If you are not sure, call Town Hall (588-6785 x225) and check on your party status. □



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tote bags, as well as copies of *Parades and Promenades, A Stroll Through Antrim, New Hampshire* and Don Dunlap's book on his family's two hundred year tradition of wood-working.

On Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup> Ron and Grace Jager will discuss the history of the Congregational Church in New England. Mrs. Jager served as an editor of the Harvard Library Bulletin and Ronald Jager taught philosophy at Yale. (Note to Patriots fans: It is possible to record electronically the Patriots' inexorable progress toward a fifth Super Bowl Championship.)

**New Attraction at the AHS Archives**

Drop by the Historical Society room upstairs at the Tuttle Library to visit our newest cool Goodell Company contraption—a pencil sharpener—kindly donated by Frank Moony of Nashua, who bought it from an antique dealer upstate and thought it should come home to Antrim. No electricity required!

We also wish to acknowledge Richard Reilly's contribution of several Goodell Company products. Thank you, Richard!

**An Invitation**

Let me end with an invitation to join the Antrim Historical Society (AHS) which is dedicated to the celebration of Antrim's history. You can learn of our activities through the Town's "News and Events" notices, local newspapers, and the AHS website [www.antrimhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.antrimhistoricalsociety.org). Dues are just \$10 a year for an individual and \$20 for an entire family. To join, please contact Steve Ullman at [sullman@brockport.edu](mailto:sullman@brockport.edu) or 588-2005 or contact Eric Tenney at [etenney@comcast.net](mailto:etenney@comcast.net) or 588-2793. You can also join by sending a check to the Antrim Historical Society, P.O. Box 172, Antrim NH 03440.

**90 Or Older?**

The Antrim Historical Society is working on a float for the Home & Harvest Parade, and we would like to hear about Antrim residents who are now 90 or more years of age. Call Liz Robertson at 588 2562 before September 9th. □

**SMOKING**

Kathleen Robbins

The Antrim HOPE Committee is sponsoring an event for anyone who is interested in trying to stop smoking—even for a day—to be held at Avenue A Teen Center, 42 Main Street, Antrim, on November 19 which is the American Cancer Society's "Great American Smokeout Day".

Studies have shown that 70% of smokers want to quit but feel unable to do it. Smokers are encouraged to make a plan to quit or plan in advance and quit that day. By quitting, even for one day, smokers will be taking an important step towards a healthier life for themselves and their families.

Tobacco use remains the single most preventable cause of disease and premature death. Second-hand smoke harms those who are exposed to it, and children are the most vulnerable. There are more ear infections, asthma, and other respiratory infections in children who are exposed to second-hand smoke, as well as an increased risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome in newborns exposed to smoke, according to the CDC.

This free event will provide support, educational materials, and snacks. Smokers can have their CO2 level checked. CO2 levels are higher in a smoker, and CO2 in the lungs causes inflammation. There will be help with making a concrete plan to quit and manage cravings. There is a calculator that will show the smoker how much money can be saved in a year.

In addition, there will be QUIT or COMFORT bags that folks can take home.

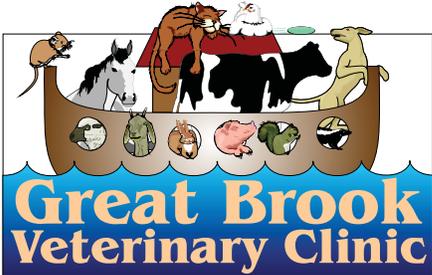
Times for this event have yet to be decided so keep an eye out for the future notices. Please plan to join us. □

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## FESTIVAL OF TREES

Kristy Boule

The Festival of Trees committee is pleased to announce the dates for the 2015 schedule. Open House will once again be held on the Saturday November 28<sup>th</sup> following Thanksgiving, from 10-4 at the James A. Tuttle Library. The Festival will continue through January 2<sup>nd</sup>, during regular Library hours: Mon and Wed. 10:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m., Tues. and Thurs. 10:00 a.m.–8:00 a.m., Fri. 9:00 a.m.–12 Noon and Saturday 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. Please call the Library for holiday hours.

With the addition of a few new committee members and volunteers, the Committee hopes to present another remarkable Festival with more than 100 trees and displays. In what is becoming a holiday weekend tradition, more than 600 visitors are expected at Open House. Upwards of 2000 visitors from near and far visited the Festival last year: from the greater Antrim community as well as Manchester, Concord, and Nashua, and some from as far away as Virginia, Colorado, and California as well. It is wonderful to be able to showcase our community spirit to so many people.

Reservations for Tree spots will begin in September. Stop by our table at Home and Harvest to pick up a form and hear about all our new projects. Community Calendars will be available for order as well. The \$5 cost supports the Festival directly. Those who order early will have the opportunity to have their personal calendar listings included. Contact: Kristy Boule: 831-1802

The Festival of Trees is sponsored by the Antrim Historical Society and the Friends of the James A. Tuttle Library; the Festival covers all its own expenses through Calendar sales, the annual Quilt Raffle, and donations. The Festival of Trees remains free and open to all. □



## CONVAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Richard Cahoon, Antrim Board Member

This Summer our schools were quieter than usual—but they were not empty. For the staff and many students, activity continued year round.

More than 130 students have attended the ConVal Summer Academy, where they have had the opportunity to catch up on credits they needed, get a head start on the coming school year, or explore classes they could not otherwise fit into their schedules. Just four years ago, Summer Academy was drawing only a couple of dozen students, so the growth has been very encouraging.

ConVal's facilities team and local contractors have been hard at work with various improvements to the physical plant. As you drive by the high school and playing fields on Route 202, you can see the skeleton of the frame for a new barn/maintenance shed. Money has been allocated to replace the track and the scoreboard as well. Many members of the community enjoy using the track for their running and walking, and we have been asked if this will continue when the new track is in place. We fully expect that the community will be able to use the new track and benefit from the improved running conditions.

Work is also underway planning for the slightly longer school days our elementary school students will return to in the Fall. This change is the result of the new Collective Bargaining Agreement between the District and the teachers and paraprofessionals. Until this new agreement was ratified, ConVal had the shortest elementary school day in the state. Getting more time was a priority if we are to provide the children with the education they deserve, and we appreciate the willingness of the faculty to come to an agreement on this point.

Finally, a committee of School Board members, teachers, staff members, students and community members has been working for a month on a new 5-year strategic plan for the District. We have received survey responses from about 900 residents, and about 100 more participated in focus group sessions. We expect to release the plan in October, and to find it a useful roadmap for educational planning over the next several years.

Crista Salamy and I are always happy to hear from anyone with concerns, suggestions or feedback regarding the district and its schools. We can be reached at [csalamy@conval.edu](mailto:csalamy@conval.edu) or [realchoon@conval.edu](mailto:realchoon@conval.edu). □



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volunteer help they began the process of moving across the street into the Aiken House next to the Library. When it was determined that the Aiken House would not be suitable as a permanent facility, a group of citizens purchased the Aiken Barn next door. The town later purchased the barn and applied for a block grant that paid for the renovation in 2002-2003, during which time Kristen and Sydney ran The Grapevine at the Church of Christ. In June 2003, The Grapevine moved into its permanent facility, the renovated Aiken Barn.

Since becoming Executive Director, Kristen and her staff have greatly enlarged the Grapevine offerings to include *Family Support and Early Childhood Programs; Access to Services* including counseling by Monadnock Family Services; and the NH Easy program helping to obtain food stamps and other benefits from the State of NH; *Community Supports and Resources* including a Community Wood Bank that provides free cord wood for home heating, Community Suppers in Frankestown, Bennington, Antrim and Hancock, The People's Service Exchange in which people exchange services they need, Before & After School Clubs providing AES and GBS students supervision, homework help, and enrichment activities, and Avenue A Teen Center offering activities, community service opportunities and entertainment.

Kristen reports, "last year The Grapevine served almost 1,900 children, youth, and adults at the Center and in the community. Our Information and Referral service assisted 263 families who were helped to find food, transportation, clothing, housing, crisis services, fuel assistance, dental and health care, childcare and other resources. 63 families with low incomes had their taxes prepared free of charge, and 32 families received firewood from the wood bank."

While Kristen doesn't usually talk about high and low points in her eighteen years, one low cannot be denied, the defunding of the Grapevine by the State of NH that began in 2009 and eliminated all money by 2011. "At its zenith the State gave us \$60,000 a year, by 2011 it was down to \$25,000, and then it completely cut us off." While this was a severe crisis in providing services, it has led to one of the highest points, the complete recovery last fiscal year of their financial health, primarily through local donations and fund raising. Two of the most generous donors are the Monadnock Paper Mills and the Gilbert Verney Foundation. Kristen remembers with embarrassment the first time she approached Monadnock President Richard Verney for Grapevine support. She created a business plan and met with Mr. and Mrs. Verney in their Bennington home, described The Grapevine's business plan and financial needs, and left the house

wondering if she had been successful. Approaching her car, she discovered that she had locked the keys inside. Horrified about having to knock on the door again, and thinking she had ruined any chance for the Verneys' support, she was surprised and pleased that not only did Mrs. Verney drive her home, but the Paper Mills contributed then and has continued to do so. Indeed, Kristen says that Mr. Verney has been helpful in other than financial ways, and that she has gone to him for advice, always graciously given.

I asked Kristen what she will miss most after she leaves, and she responded instantly without having to think, "The people," by which she means her staff, board, volunteers and the parents and children whom the Grapevine serves. Indeed, her interest in The Grapevine from the beginning was as a parent as her son Jack (now sixteen) was in the first "Baby Group (0 to 18 months), and he moved up through the Parent-Child Program, from Baby to Toddler to Preschool to Conval where he is in 10th grade.

Tragedy struck in 2011 when Kristen's husband John died of terribly painful cancer. "John was very involved in The Grapevine. He was instrumental in starting and building the wood bank, the People's Service Exchange was his idea, and he cooked the first community supper in Antrim."

In terms of someone to replace her, Kristen says they are very fortunate that the Chair of The Grapevine Board of Directors, Melissa Gallagher, has agreed to serve until a permanent Director is chosen. Ms. Gallagher first came to The Grapevine as a parent with two young children in the Better Beginnings Program, became involved with the Center, joined the Board, and was elected Board Chair in 2013. She has extensive professional experience in family, children, and community services throughout New England, and importantly she knows and respects The Grapevine staff, and they her.

Regarding her life after The Grapevine, Kristen says she has no plans and is keeping the future open. But she has become interested in "Restorative Justice" programs, alternatives to our punitive incarceration system that seek to address misbehavior and crime by repairing the harm and establishing or restoring relationships between victims and perpetrators wherever possible. Before The Grapevine, she had earned a law degree, and while she says she is not interested in passing the NH bar and practicing law, she believes she might use her training in the law as well as her experience here toward another professional position that would again benefit society as she certainly has as Executive Director of The Grapevine Family & Community Resource Center for the past eighteen years. □

## ARE YOUR CHILDREN USING DRUGS?

Officer Ethan Vaillancourt, Antrim Police Department

By the time you read this school will already have started and for many of you summer trips and vacations will have come to an end, meaning it's back to the grind of work and helping the kids with their homework. For some it's sad to see this time of year succumb to the cooler weather, and for others it's a welcome change. This change is one that can't be controlled or diverted. Unfortunately, however, for the Town of Antrim there's another change taking place, a constant and greater influx of illicit drugs than we have seen before. Statistics reveal the sad reality that in smaller communities like Antrim, our children are being exposed to these drugs more and more through school and friends.

The problem is not as new to Antrim as one would think. The Antrim Police Department is now encountering many adult drug addicts who started experimenting with drugs while they were growing up in our schools. Slowly and subtly drugs take hold of young people until they are no longer in control. The drug takes over their body, and their life spirals out of control, affecting not just themselves, but their friends, families, jobs, and ultimately the community. Far too often law enforcement has seen that this could have been prevented or caught early by vigilant and involved parents.

Here are some ways you can prevent or correct a drug problem:

Know who your child's friends are and know their parents. Don't just be acquainted with them, but try to KNOW them on a personal level. Also, know where your kids are going to play or hang out with friends, and check-in unannounced on what they are doing.

Don't ignore the warning signs: children, their friends, neighbors, or other family members suddenly acting differently, that is, more irritable over insignificant things, changes in behavior or attitude towards authority, sudden drop in grades or school performance, red or bloodshot eyes, unfamiliar odors in their room or on their clothes that may be from drugs. Don't be afraid to talk to them about drugs or your suspicions. Say something and do something, whether on your own, through the school, or even by speaking with a member of the Antrim Police Department. Ask for help if you're not sure how to handle the situation. We'd much rather help intervene in your child's, friend's or family member's life early on than have to arrest and prosecute them later. You don't want to be the parent who says later when their child becomes a drug addict, "I wish I had said or done something earlier."

The Antrim Police Department cares deeply about protecting and serving our community, but we can only do so much on our own. We need your help. Get involved and reach out to us for help or provide information in combating the drug problem so we can continue to have a beautiful community. □

## PIECING IT ALL TOGETHER

Ann Allwarden, AES Principal

It is with great pleasure that I share the following news: Antrim Elementary School (AES) has been awarded an Artist in Residence Grant for the 2015-2016 school year. This award is made possible by appropriations from the Governor and State Legislature and a National Endowment for the Arts grant to the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts. The intention behind this funding is to benefit communities in New Hampshire and improve the quality of life through the arts. In order to be awarded this grant, interested applicants need to complete an extensive and rigorous application process. The following educators embraced this opportunity with enthusiasm--Jeannie Connolly (Coordinator of ConVal's Arts Integration Program), Carole Storro (AES Art and Music Teacher), Kathy Stacy (AES Kindergarten Teacher), and Liz Lawler (AES Second Grade Teacher). The following sections provide a sneak peek at what is in store for staff, students, parents, and community members this fall.

### Artist in Residence

Mark Ragonese, a multi-disciplinary artist ([http://markragonese.com/artist\\_residencies](http://markragonese.com/artist_residencies)), will work with students and teachers in grades kindergarten through fourth to create a large wooden puzzle mural. Each student will paint and pattern at least one puzzle piece. Teachers and other staff members will also contribute a piece. Incorporated into the mural will be landscape and animal habitat elements present in the Antrim area. Families and community members will be invited to an unveiling and pot-luck supper when the mural is completed.

### Community Connections

In addition to the large wooden puzzle mural that will be installed at AES, students will create coordinating puzzle pieces on tag board that are identical to the wooden piece that they create for the installation. These pieces will be laminated for strength and then brought to the James A. Tuttle Library where community members will be able to work collaboratively to piece them together. With that, we

 — continued on page 10



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want to send a special thank you to Antrim's Tuttle Library Director, Kathy Chisholm, who embraced the idea of hosting an exhibit of photos documenting the residency as well as a space for the floor puzzle to be put together by families and community members.

**The Impact**

This experience has been designed to provide students with an opportunity to

- Take pride in their part of this creation and quite literally leave a "piece" of themselves for future generations.
- See how math skills, knowledge of their environment, and design expertise are synthesized to produce the puzzle mural.
- See that their one puzzle piece is part of a larger creation and that working as a united community multiplies their own potential.

As students and staff work with Mark, they will be challenged to think about, design, and create a mural made up of puzzle pieces that when fitted together will illustrate our local landscape as well as what it means to be part of a community that honors and celebrates the values of cooperation, honesty, kindness, and respect. This mural will not only challenge those who work on it, we hope that it will also challenge all those who view it in the years to come. As creators and viewers think about what it means to be part of a community that honors and celebrates our local landscapes and core values, we hope that they will be inspired to envision new possibilities, further defining and shaping what it means to be part of the great community of Antrim. □

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**ANTRIM ECLECTIC BOOK CLUB**

Coordinator: Steve Ullman  
[sullman@brockport.edu](mailto:sullman@brockport.edu), 588-2005

For the 2015-2016 varsity reading season, we have selected eight books listed by The Modern Library as being among the 100 best novels ever written in the English language. In doing so, we tried to avoid overly lengthy tomes. In April and May we attempted to digest *An American Tragedy* and *The Brothers Karamazov*, both more than 800 pages in length, exercises which proved taxing for even our voracious members.

We have also included on our 2015-2106 schedule *Our Kids* written by Harvard social scientist and our Jaffrey neighbor, Robert Putnam. His startling analysis of how much a child's family income determines his chances for adult success constitutes a striking challenge to the Horatio Alger, "any American can pull himself up by his bootstraps," American Dream.

So if you are looking for sprightly discussions of our culture's most notable fiction, please join us on the Thursdays listed below, between 11:00 a.m. and 12 Noon at the Antrim Presbyterian Church. Melissa Lawless will once again provide copies of these books at the Tuttle Library. We thank you, Melissa.

**2015**

- Aug. 20 • E. M Forster, *A Room With a View* (172 pages)
- Sept. 24 • Vladimir Nabokov, *Lolita* (317 pages)
- Oct. 15 • E.L. Doctorow, *Ragtime* (336 pages)
- Nov. 19 • Robert Putnam, *Our Kids* (400 pages)
- Dec 17 • Nathaniel West, *The Day of the Locust* (156 pages)

**2016**

- Apr. 16 • John Steinbeck, *The Grapes of Wrath* (464 pages)
- May 19 • D.H. Lawrence, *Sons and Lovers* (400 pages)
- June 16 • Dashiell Hammett, *The Maltese Falcon* (217 pages)
- July 21 • Harper Lee, *To Kill a Mockingbird* (384 pages)



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## ME AND MY CELL PHONE

Joan Gorga

My cell phone and I have a difficult relationship at best. It isn't that I'm not a modern woman, it's just that I don't have any desire to be "connected" at all times, and I find it constraining to carry something that has to be kept dry, not to mention charged. I do concede that it is useful on rare occasions. Those do not include any time that I'm at home, however, since we hardly get any signal there. And since we hardly get any signal in most of the places we spend time, it is always dead if I leave it on, and it is always off if someone tries to call.

It did have just enough juice in it to call my husband, Frank, and beg him to call AAA the day my car broke down in Peterborough just after we dropped his truck off for some much-needed time with Glen Cook. And I thought about using it the day I fell through the ice while snowshoeing alone at the far end of the McCady George beaver swamp. However, I managed to get my snowshoe untangled from the thick lily stalks and pull myself out of the hip-deep main channel. After a quick assessment of the boot full of smelly water, pants leg rapidly freezing in the 16-degree cold and the sun beginning to drop over the ridge, it seemed to make more sense just to head home as fast as possible, so I didn't even check the cell phone in my breast pocket for a signal, but at least it was still dry.

Then one Friday morning I just couldn't find it. I knew I'd had it when I got out of the kayak at Gregg Lake the day before, because, modern woman that I am, I checked the time and was exceedingly proud that I wasn't late. I went directly from there to yoga at Town Hall, and didn't think I had even taken it out of the car there. But it wasn't in the car and it wasn't at home and it wasn't at the beach. It wasn't crushed on Main Street where I parked, and I couldn't see it down the drain. I called it sporadically over the next few days. It was still on and ringing, so it couldn't be at the bot-

tom of the lake or lying on Main Street, where it would have gotten thoroughly soaked in Thursday night's rainstorm. Frank checked the account online, and no one was using it. It had to be in a place where there was a good signal, since it was still on, but we started to resign ourselves to a permanently lost cell phone. Even while moaning about how much work he was going to have to do to deal with replacing it, Frank began to dream of trying again to get a smart phone. The last time we had tried that, we didn't get enough signal to activate it, but we had other ideas to try to get around that.

On Monday morning we stopped at Town Hall before heading north on a camping trip and I checked upstairs where I had gone to yoga. I called it using Frank's cell phone and, once again, heard nothing. I came back down shaking my head to Frank, but someone else mentioned hearing a phone ring down there. I dialed again, and sure enough a familiar ring sounded from the lobby. And there, in the mail slot, was my phone, safe and sound and dry and still holding a charge. So, to whoever picked it up and dropped it in the mail slot at Town Hall, many, many thanks from both of us, even though Frank will have to wait a while longer for his smart phone.



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swarm home to join his bees. He and Bill went through the pasture to the apple tree laden with both apples and the swarm. Bill got a ladder and some branch clippers.

I watched with a friend and my son Michael from the kitchen window, no need to get in their way. Martin, my 90-year-old father-in-law who is ever ready to supervise any and all happenings at the farm, walked right down to be part of the action.

Bill held the ladder while Gordon nimbly ascended to the swarm. He carefully clipped branches to afford him a clear view and work space. His plan was to cut the branch top off and lower the plastic bag down over the swarm. That didn't prove possible so he gently tapped the swarm in to the bag, returned to the ground with a bag full of bees. He then gently shook them into the temporary hive. If he had successfully captured the queen the bees would stay with her and he could transport them back to his house and a new hive. Time would tell and he would return in the morning to see.

Between all the of the bee excitement a neighbor arrived to buy eggs, the UPS delivery truck pulled in to unload a

large shipment of soap making supplies, and the phone rang. A quiet evening at the farm seemed as elusive as usual.

At last, the relocation of the swarm was finished for the night. Bill was putting away the tools in the barn, Gordon left for home, our friend said goodnight, Michael set the table, and I started dinner.

Suddenly, Bill called to Michael for help in the barn. There were three red-poll birds stuck in the barn. I guess they had flown in when the doors were open chasing flies. They have returned each year for over three years to build a nest over one of the barn doors. Their ba-



bies were calling and seemed stressed to have their parents away for so long.

We have a three-story barn and those birds decided to give Bill and Michael a run for their money. They spent the better part of an hour waving nets, draping cloth to block access to the loft, and whatever else they could think of to help the birds get out of the barn. A last they were down to one bird. Its mate was hopping by the doorway calling to the trapped bird. It was worrisome to say the least.

Athena one of our barn/house cats could not for the life of her figure out why it was taking two grown men an hour to move birds from the barn to the outdoors. As our birder, she could have easily done it with two paws tied behind her back.

All this went on while the oven beeper continued to beep that dinner was ready.

Finally, hours after Bill got home from work for our peaceful evening, the bees secured for the night, the eggs collected, dogs fed, sheep watered, redpolls set free, dinner was served. □

## ANTRIM-BENNINGTON LIONS CLUB

Steve Ullman 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President

At our June 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Antrim-Bennington Lions thanked Sarah Edwards for her splendid service as our King Lion (Yes, the "Alpha Lion" is known as King Lion, regardless of his or her gender.) We also welcomed as our new King Lion Sue Conklin whose numerous community activities have amply demonstrated her leadership prowess.

Returning as officers are 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President Steve Ullman, Secretary Linda Tenney, and Treasurer Rick Wood. Soaring up to the post of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President is Dick Loveland and climbing to the status of 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-Presidents are David and Linda Ward. Serving as Membership Chair is John Robertson though anyone interested in joining our hardy band can contact any Lion here in the Antrim-Bennington metro area.

It was difficult to figure out what duties to assign First Spouse John Conklin (the husband of King Lion Sue Conklin). We ultimately arrived at the position of Lion Tamer. And finally, after a lengthy, rigorous selection process, Marcia Ullman was designated as Tail Twister (don't ask).

First Spouse John Conklin submitted the following report on the Lions' latest service project:

On Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, the Antrim-Bennington Lions club painted the bandstand in Memorial Park. This was a project suggested by Lion Joan Gorga who is also Chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission. Lions Mary and Richard Reilly had spent a couple of days sanding, water blasting and generally preparing the existing paint for Saturday morning's assault by fourteen members of the Lions Club. With three different shades of paint (one white and two blue) generously donated by Edmunds Hardware, the bandstand began to quickly sparkle. In a little over three hours the job was complete. Unfortunately the spire on the top was unreachable and remains

— continued on page 14

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**BOY SCOUTS TROOP 2**

Brian Beihl, Headmaster

**Summer activities**

Troop 2 Attends Acadia National Park, Hidden Valley Camp in July. A trip to Acadia National Park in Maine in late June and early July included 23 miles of biking on the carriage trails, tide pool exploration, and a hike up Cadillac Mountain. Troop 2 Scouts and leaders stayed at the Blackwoods Campground while they explored Mt. Desert Island, and even had a talk from marine mammal researcher Barbara Beblowski from Antrim, who works out of Bar Harbor. Most of the funding for the trip was generated from making and selling pizza at the Keene Pumpkin Festival last fall.

July 19-25, the troop again headed north, this time to the Griswold Scout Reservation in Gilmanton Iron Works to attend Hidden Valley summer camp. Eleven Scouts took merit badges ranging from Small Boat Sailing to Search and Rescue, and Archery to Art. Weathering one significant thunderstorm at the beginning of the week, the remainder of the week included mostly clear days with temperatures in the 80s and 90s. One of the favorite troop activities for the week was the new Aquatic Craze float at the camp, which includes a water slide, log roll, and trampoline.

**New Scouting Year Begins Sept 9**

Though the troop meets throughout the summer, the new Scouting year officially begins in September, this year on Wednesday, September 9. Troop 2 continues to meet at the American Legion Post #50, which had chartered the troop for 83 of Troop 2's 102 years. Meetings are from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesdays through the school year. This year's calendar has not been released, but will include summer camp, and at least one major trip. Boys interested in joining the program can join anytime, even if they participate in sports. A potential Scout may attend for two weeks before formally joining, so boys 11-17 and parents are welcome to any meeting. More information is available by calling Scoutmaster Brian Beihl at 620-8300 (cell) or 588-3014 (home), or email: [beihl@comcast.net](mailto:beihl@comcast.net).

**Fried Dough at Home & Harvest**

One of the favorite traditions at Antrim's Home & Harvest Festival is Troop 2's fried dough, made by the boys the old fashioned way with cast iron Dutch ovens. Stop by and help support the Scouts! The Scouts will also march in the parade.

**NH Jamboree at NH Motor Speedway**

About 5,000 Scouts are expected to attend the New Hampshire Jamboree at NH Motor Speedway over Columbus Day weekend, October 9-11. Jambo happens every four years and promises to be the largest event in many years.

This year includes a Guinness World Record for the longest Pinewood Derby track in history, a S.T.E.M. theme throughout the program, zip lines, a BMX track, "bull" riding, and age-appropriate activities for Cub Scouts to Venture Scouts. More details are at [NHJambo.org](http://NHJambo.org).

**Wreath Sale Begins in November**

As they have for 25 years, Troop 2 will be selling wreaths in Antrim, Bennington, and Hancock in late fall. We have decided to send mail reservation forms again this year and are happy to deliver for a small charge. Look in your mail box in the first week of November. Your donation helps to send Scouts to summer camp, and to support the Scouting program all year long. Thank you to our many loyal customers!

**CUB SCOUTS PACK 2**

Jenny Colby, Cubmaster

As I write this, the Pack 2 Cub Scouts are winding down a very eventful summer. A few of the Cub Scouts went to Camp Carpenter this summer where they met new friends, had some great adventures, and made plenty of good memories. The Scouts have also enjoyed our new summer program. Each Monday saw the Scouts going on a different outing or getting together for some fun. A few of these activities included a game of Frisbee, a bug catching derby, a hike, an obstacle course, and one rainy Monday making cool costumes from newspaper (even our den chiefs got in on the fun).

Our coming scouting year looks to be a great one. This October our fall campout will be a two-night event at the NH Jamboree, which this year will be held at the New Hampshire Motor Speedway. Many parents, as well as the Cub Scouts, are looking forward to this one.

This is the first year of the newly revamped Cub Scout program. The BSA listened to Cub Scouts, leaders and parents and have come up with a program that has more adventures and focuses more on the outdoors and camping than it has in the past. I've read through a few of the leader books and they look fun!

Our fall sign up night will be held on Thursday, September 24th at 7:00 p.m. just outside Antrim Elementary school. We will have games for the boys and will answer any questions you have about scouting. If you can't make it that night, you can talk to me at the Cub Scout booth at Antrim Home and Harvest (where we will be selling not just the usual popcorn but beef jerky as well) or email me at [jennylc@tds.net](mailto:jennylc@tds.net). We are always looking for more boys in grades 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> to join the fun. If you have ever thought it would be fun and rewarding to volunteer with the Cub Scouts, please contact me as well. We always have room for more boys and more volunteers. □

unpainted. We are currently in the process of recruiting a very tall person to join the Lions Club.

This fall the Lions will be utilizing the state of the art, Surelight Technology to screen for vision shortcomings among Conval students. Last fall volunteers checked some 364 elementary students including 121 at Antrim Elementary School. This fall we will offer checkups at the Grapevine, outside Town Hall during Home and Harvest, and (we hope) at Great Brook School as well as at the elementary schools and day care centers in Antrim, Hancock, Bennington, Frankestown, and Greenfield.

Bob Edwards is the Health Services Committee Chair, and he asks people in need of glasses or hearing assistance to contact him at [rledwards1985@gmail.com](mailto:rledwards1985@gmail.com).

The Lions Club's foundational goal is community service. And so we wish to celebrate the honor recently bestowed on Lion Robin Loveland. Here I quote from an email sent by the Franklin Pierce Lake Association Treasurer

By the time you have read this column, the Club will have heard a report from Antrim's Health, Opportunities, Prevention, and Education (H.O.P.E) Committee. This organization seeks to educate the community about local substance abuse especially among adolescents and to support the Antrim Police Department, Parks and Recreation Department, and the Grapevine in their efforts to prevent substance addiction and abuse.

On Friday, September 19<sup>th</sup> (the first day of Home and Harvest Days) beginning at 5:00 p.m. at the Tenney Farm, the Lions will be offering for sale chicken tenders, hot dogs, hamburgers, coleslaw, corn and drinks. Proceeds will go to various charitable enterprises which we support including the New Hampshire Association for the Blind, the Grapevine, the Antrim Food pantry, and the Antrim Parks and Recreation Department Bike Rodeo.

We welcome new members (especially tall skilled painters) who identify with the Lions mission: "To empower volunteers to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace, and promote international understanding through Lions clubs."

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT**

"We are extremely pleased to announce that The New

Hampshire Lakes Association has chosen, by a unanimous vote, our very own **Robin Loveland** as this year's recipient of the John F. Morten Memorial Award for Exemplary Lakes Stewardship. Robin was the driving force behind the formation of FPLA in 2009 including the Weed Watcher, Water Testing, Lake Host and Loon Census programs. Without her determination we would not be where we are today.

As noted in the notification letter from the NH Lakes Association: "All of this volunteer service took place within a four-year time frame, established a well-rounded lake stewardship program, and positioned the Franklin Pierce Lake Association to be even more effective in the future. Robin Loveland exemplifies outstanding lake stewardship".

The President of the NH Lakes Association, Tom O'Brien, will present the award to Robin at the Annual Meeting.

Well-done Robin!" □

**SUMMER VACATIONS WITH GRANDMA**

Susan Ellsworth

Summers were spent on the north shore of Long Island. Mom and dad would rent a house, and I remember walking along the rocky beaches with grandma picking pretty rocks and shells for our collection. Grandma loved to pick up the yellow and orange mother-of-pearl sun bleached clamshells. They were small, fragile, and easy to find on top of the rounded edge rocks that came in many shapes, colors, and thicknesses. Grandma thought each one was special and different just like people, she would say. She would fill her pail with her many new treasures daily. Sometimes she would find a sun bleached and dried baby horseshoe crab to show me. It would be light as a feather, and I could see through it. She told me that they lived back with the dinosaurs, and still today. She loved the long shorelines to walk, and to be in the sun and hear the waves as they met the rocks. She said it was music that nature made for all to hear and relax by. We would listen to the seagulls as they sang along too. I told grandma I remember as a young child lying on a blanket for a nap with my twin brother at the beach being lulled to sleep by this music. She said all the grandchildren did the

*—* continued on page 21

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# AVENUE A TEEN & COMMUNITY CENTER

Heidi Schultz

Greetings from Avenue A Teen & Community Center! I've been the Coordinator of Avenue A for a little over a year now, and as I plan for fall, I've been reflecting on what we've accomplished, and what we are looking forward to in 2015/16. Here's some of what we have planned.

## Avenue A Club for GBS students

We had a great first year with the Avenue A Club, an after school program that began last December on Wednesday afternoons. Avenue A Club allows middle-schoolers to take advantage of Avenue A's facilities, learn new skills, self-manage and have fun. Along with Arlene Soule and Ted Brown, our fearless volunteer co-coordinators, we enjoyed games of pool, foosball, ping pong, art projects, community service, cooking, and outings to Memorial Park and Gregg Lake. We also co-sponsored and participated in one of the community suppers and performed roadside cleanup for Earth Day.

This year, we are looking to add more outings and speakers to the mix. Kids are welcome to come to their first club day free of charge to try it out, and if they choose to join, a registration form is required, and the cost is \$5 per session or \$15 per month. I pick up the kids at GBS and walk them to Avenue A, and then walk the kids back to the school so they can catch the late bus if they aren't picked up or walking home. To learn more or receive a registration form, please call The Grapevine at 588-2620 or send an email to [avenueateencenter@gmail.com](mailto:avenueateencenter@gmail.com).

## Friday Night Open Hours for Teens

Open hours for teens continue on most Friday nights. Teens can enjoy use of the facilities, music and free snacks and drinks. Once a month we enjoy Rick & Diane's pizza. I am looking to add some specific programming to some of our Friday nights, so tune in to our Facebook pages! We have the Avenue A page, Avenue A Parent's Page, and a page only for teens called Avenue A Teens Only. We are always looking for adult volunteers to help staff these evenings, so if you are interested in helping out, please let me know. We do perform a background check before volunteering can begin.

## Home and Harvest 50/50 Raffle Fundraiser plus a Match

We are making plans for a 50/50 raffle booth at the Home and Harvest Festival, in order to raise funds for a projector TV, computer equipment, musical equipment and other items that would make Avenue A better than ever. This would allow us to have movie nights and sports watching events, gaming tournaments, access to technology for the kids, and to provide the necessary technology to attract groups to rent our space for meetings and trainings. And, a generous anonymous donor will match the amount raised for Avenue A.

## Avenue A Gallery Art Space

This fall, we are looking to use the wall space at Avenue A to create a rotating art gallery for young people and adults to display their artwork. It's a great space for a gallery—if you are interested in showing your art, please get in touch.

## Use Our Space

Avenue A Teen & Community Center is a space that can be rented by donation by groups on an on-going basis or for one-time use, celebrations and other events. We have tables, a great seating area and a kitchen with a fridge, microwave and toaster oven. Some of the groups currently using the space are Alcoholics Anonymous, Al-Anon, HOPE committee (Antrim's substance misuse prevention group), the band Tombstone Territory, and the Church of Christ.

## Collaborations

I see the mission of Avenue A extending beyond the brick and mortar space of 42 Main Street, reaching far into the community. Some of the groups that Avenue A is involved with include participating on Be the Change! (Monadnock Community Hospital's Substance Misuse and Behavioral Health Task Force), the HOPE committee (Antrim's local substance misuse prevention group), Great Brook School (Avenue A is hoping to create a Community Service Club at GBS this year), ConVal High School, and the OWL (Our Whole Lives) sexuality education course through the Unitarian Church. If you would like to collaborate with Avenue A, please contact us.

## Fall Calendar

First Thursday of the month: *Heard It Through The Grapevine* open mic night; Sept. 18, pool tournament for teens, during Friday open hours; Sept. 19, Home & Harvest festival 50/50 fundraiser for Avenue A; Oct. 6 at 6:00 p.m. Community forum on substance misuse at the Antrim Town Hall, co-sponsored by "Be the Change!" and the Hope Committee; Oct. 31 Halloween and Avenue A Anniversary party; Nov. 19 Great American Smoke-Out event.

Stay tuned—more events on the horizon! Keep in touch at our Avenue A Facebook page. To be on our mailing list, email me at [avenueateencenter@gmail.com](mailto:avenueateencenter@gmail.com). Thank you for your support. □

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## GREAT BROOK SCHOOL

Jim Elder, Principal

I have been busy, as usual during the summer months, preparing for the upcoming year. This year, however, has required a different type of preparation as it has been necessary to hire five new teachers to replace a remarkable five who have retired. While we are always looking to the future, it does seem worthwhile to reflect briefly on the tremendous contributions that these extraordinary teachers made to Great Brook's culture.

Kathleen Bigford was at Great Brook for her entire twenty-year teaching career. Kathleen had been successful in a number of different jobs. Prior to coming to us, she had even worked for the CIA in Washington, D.C. Kathleen decided at some point that helping children to *see*, and to *think*, was how she wanted to leave her mark in this world. During her time she taught a wide variety of subjects and grade-levels, and had numerous certifications, and was even an enrichment teacher for a while. Students knew that Ms. Bigford would challenge their assumptions, and help them to develop critical-thinking skills, and they had a deep reverence for her.

Sylvia Shea was another remarkable member of our community who worked here for thirty years. Prior to her arrival at Great Brook, Sylvia had taught incarcerated youth at a detention center in Manchester. Sylvia had also taught students in an alternative school in Henniker, and came to us initially as a special educator. She later made the successful switch to 5<sup>th</sup> grade regular educator, a role she shined in! Sylvia has a very quiet and gentle way about her, and every student felt special in her presence.

Nancy Blair taught at Great Brook for fifteen of her thirty years of experience, after having been in vocational education in both Salem and Claremont NH. Nancy taught "consumer and family services," and students loved to be in her class. Nancy was known to be boisterous and energetic throughout the school day. Teachers gathered in her room to eat lunch to laugh, and to feel her warmth. Nancy has been the life of the school, and we will miss her voice.

Carol Ripley was a language arts teacher for her entire thirty years at Great Brook. Ms. Ripley is passionate about writing, and every student was awed by her depth of thought, but also by her depth of feeling. Poetry classes were extraordinary in her room. Carol would often write a note to a colleague that would have them clutching their chest, with a tear rolling down their cheek. Ms. Ripley loved each of her students, and never gave up on any of them.

Barbara Black, our final retiree, served this school district for an incredible forty-two of her forty-three year teaching career. Barbara started out at Peterborough Middle School as a social studies teacher, and later transferred to Great Brook where she taught mostly 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Barbara took her job extremely seriously, and would be here all hours of the day and night, and all days of the week. Barbara loved her students, yet she never lost sight of the fact that her primary role was to teach them how to read and do arithmetic. Her generosity was legendary.

Each of these teachers will be sorely missed! Our school will not be the same without them, yet will do our best to make up for this with increased energy and effort. It would be interesting to know how many lives were touched by these five remarkable ladies, and we will probably never know for sure. We, as the Great Brook community, thank each of them from the bottom of our heart! □

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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## SEPTEMBER

- 16 *Antrim Grange Program Meeting* • Float Night • Antrim Grange Hall • 7:00 p.m.  
17 *FREE Community Supper* • Antrim Presbyterian Church • 5:30 p.m.  
18 *Pool Tournament for Teens* • Avenue A Teen Center • during open hours  
18–19 *Home & Harvest* • schedule on page 27  
19 *Open House* • Tuttle Library • 11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.  
24 *Antrim Eclectic Book Club* • Antrim Presbyterian Church • 11:00 a.m.  
24 *Cub Scouts Sign-up Night* • Antrim Elementary School • 7:00 p.m.



## OCTOBER

- 6 *Substance Misuse Community Forum* • Antrim Town Hall • 6:00–8:00 p.m.  
7 *Antrim Grange Installation of Officers Meeting* • Antrim Grange Hall • 7:00 p.m.  
9–11 *Boy Scouts NH Jamboree* • NH Motor Speedway  
15 *Antrim Eclectic Book Club* • Antrim Presbyterian Church • 11:00 a.m.  
15 *FREE Community Supper* • Antrim Presbyterian Church • 5:30 p.m.  
18 *History of the Congregational Church in New England* • program of the Antrim Historical Society at the Antrim Presbyterian Church • 3:00 p.m.  
28 *Antrim Grange Program Meeting* • Halloween Party • Antrim Grange Hall • 7:00 p.m.  
31 *Halloween and Anniversary Party* • Avenue A Teen & Community Center

## NOVEMBER

- 14 *Workshop for Early Childhood Educators* • The Grapevine • 8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.  
19 *Antrim Eclectic Book Club* • Antrim Presbyterian Church • 11:00 a.m.  
19 *FREE Community Supper* • Antrim Presbyterian Church • 5:30 p.m.  
19 *Great American Smoke Out Day* • Avenue A Teen & Community Center  
21 *International Games Day @ Your Library* • Tuttle Library • 10:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.  
28 *Festival of Trees Open House* • James A. Tuttle Library • 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.



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## ANTRIM RECREATION

Celeste Lunetta, Director

Antrim Recreation had a busy summer. The parks facilities were well used and Gregg Lake Beach had a great crowd of local folks cooling off and enjoying this beautiful park all season. Our beach staff—Ally, Nick, Jen, Jennica and Eric—worked hard and kept the place safe and clean through all the heavy use, and I am grateful for their efforts. Lots of kids signed up for the afternoon and evening swim lessons, one of our most well attended swim sessions in recent memory.

Memorial Park saw lots of action at the tennis court, Mill Pond, skate park, and bandstand. The Antrim Bennington Lions club repainted the bandstand in June, and it looks beautiful! Rallied by Colin Isotti and others, the skate park community is fundraising to improve the esthetics and add a bank ramp on the fence side of the park. The skater community stepped up to sell concessions at “Antrim in the Evening” to raise money for the project. “Antrim in the Evening” was held outside most of the series, and we are very thankful to our major summer sponsors, Dr. Perry and Associates and the Bank of New Hampshire. We are grateful to RLB Graphics for the beautiful “Antrim in the Evening” poster.

At the Recreation Office and Town Gym things were hopping during a month of well-attended Summer Camps where our camp staff Jt, Meghan, Jennica, Hannah, and Colin provided enriching experiences for lots of kids. We had two amazing volunteers—Marissa and Jacob—who spent weeks at the summer camp. The Recreation Department is also pleased to announce that our assistant position is finally filled, with two folks sharing the work. Nick Duffy and Monica Hagelberg are enthusiastic to help with Movies at Town Hall, Adult Basketball, Ultimate Frisbee, Jump Rope Club, and more.

The Senior Center took the bus out several times, and we are very grateful to Jim for driving the bus. Look for future trips to expand as Monica and Nick plan the bus schedule.

By September 1<sup>st</sup> we expect the first phase of the Shea Field lighting project to be completed. This means that the

fall season will be enhanced by games and programs under the lights. In addition to solving field availability problems for soccer, we plan on a lacrosse clinic and other programs. Thank you to the townspeople who supported this project, we will really benefit from this facility improvement. Plans for the winter are shaping up to include a skating rink. A big thanks to the members of the Parks and Recreation Commission who have tirelessly steered this project to fruition.

Fall program information will be briefly reviewed in this article, but I urge you to frequently visit the town website, [antrimnh.org](http://antrimnh.org) and look at the calendar and the Recreation Department page for the most updated program information. Also, the Recreation Department has a Facebook page. We are reviewing different software programs that will enable online registration, and hope to offer that service soon to our program users. Thanks for reading, and we hope to meet you in the parks!

### Upcoming Recreation Programs

For more information or to register, look online at [antrimnh.org](http://antrimnh.org), or call the office at 588-3121, or email us at [antrimrecreation@tds.net](mailto:antrimrecreation@tds.net). More programs are always put together after the Limrik deadline, so stay up to date with the web, and our bulletin board at the Town Hall.

### Important Registration Deadlines

**Fall Soccer.** We still have room for kids 4-6 years old, in our U6 and Little Kickers programs. **Final registrations are due September 4.**

**Discount passes to Crotched Mountain Ski and Ride.** The lowest price passes available, plus it's a fundraiser for the recreation department! We will be bringing kids up for after school lessons as well, so please go right over to the town website for instructions on how to register, or to get more information. **All discount pass purchases MUST be completed by Monday October 12.**

**League Basketball for kids in 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grades.** **Registrations are due to the recreation department by October 30.** Program details for kids in K-2nd grade, plus instructional clinics, will be in the December Limrik.

**After School TaeKwonDo.** Kenneys TaeKwonDo returns for another year on Thursdays after school, 3:30–4:30 p.m. Starts September 23; \$25 for four weeks. Kids in Kindergarten and older. This is a very popular program.

**Movies at Antrim Town Hall:** They're back! Check the town hall and the town website for now; we know we are showing films on Friday September 26 (*Perfect Pitch* marathon) and Friday October 3<sup>rd</sup> *Max*. More films are being scheduled. Movies are free! Concessions are sold, and popcorn (REAL BUTTER) is available for donations.



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— continued on page 20

## LOONS IN LOVE

Joan Gorga

Shortly after ice-out on Gregg Lake this spring, I was out paddling in my kayak and noticed a pair of loons swimming around together making low murmurs and coos. A little while later, one of them climbed out onto a low rock and called softly to the other, who responded by joining the first on the rock. It didn't take me long to figure out what they were doing.

Did this mean we might have loons nesting on Gregg Lake this year? To my knowledge, loons nesting on other lakes, especially Willard Pond, have used Gregg Lake for feeding, but they have never been reported to nest on Gregg Lake. I searched online and asked a few people some pertinent questions about loon behavior, but the real bonanza came when I pulled into a parking lot to go for a wildflower walk with some fellow students from a class I was taking. One of the license plates read "NHLOONS." This was meant to be!

The driver of that car turned out to be a trustee of the Loon Preservation Committee. He assured me that loons usually nest not far from their mating site, and the other Antrim resident in the wildflower class, Lucille Lacombe, and I got our first assignment – "Find that nest!" He also guided us to intern Emlyn Crocker, whose job it was to monitor the loons of the Monadnock Region this summer.

A week or so after the loons mated, I spotted a single loon on the water not far from the mating site. I paddled slowly by the area, and there it was, a surprisingly well-camouflaged loon sitting on a nest low on the lake shore. My husband, Frank, and I watched the loons from a distance for several days, even witnessing a changing-of-the-guard as one relieved the other on the nest. However, a few days later, they abandoned the nest. There was no sign of eggs. I had seen a weasel only twenty feet from the nest site, but it was hard to tell whether eggs had even been laid, and Emlyn suggested that we still keep an eye out. "Maybe they were just practicing." She also explained that this wasn't quite a typical loon nesting spot. Usually they would choose a spot on a small island where they have the relative safety of being surrounded by water.

A few days after that, we got some long-awaited heavy rain and the nest was completely flooded by the rising lake water. But the loons were still hanging around together, swimming and diving and looking like loons in love.

While driving by the end of the lake a couple of days in a row in early June, I again spotted a single loon hanging around in the shallow area of the lake called the meadows,

near the boat launch. This called for another investigation by kayak. I moved slowly along the shore, rounded a small island, and voilà, I was face-to-face with a loon sitting on a nest on an even smaller island. This was the ideal nesting site Emlyn had described. We debated whether to rope off the nest to protect it, since it was located near the busiest part of the lake, and ropes and signs have a way of attracting people who otherwise might never go near the nest. In the end, after a photo was posted on Facebook, we broke down and helped Emlyn string a rope across the lake corner.

Loons generally incubate their eggs for 26–28 days. On the 26<sup>th</sup> day after I found the second nest, I paddled over towards the rope, caught a glimpse of a loon low on the nest, and was noisily greeted by the mate in the water, who put on a dramatic show to lead me away. We had heavy rain the next day, and the lake again rose several inches. By the following day, the loons had left the nest, but I couldn't see any sign of a chick. I paddled over to the abandoned nest with Emlyn. She collected shell fragments from the nest for analysis by the Loon Preservation Committee. We searched, but couldn't find signs of another egg carried off by a predator or floated off the nest by the rising water. If the shell wasn't broken, the mottled brown egg would be hard to see on the lake bottom. Apparently, if eggs are lost to predation, the loons will often re-nest, but not if a chick actually hatches. The fragments in the nest suggested that at least one chick had hatched. Some men who had been fishing from the bridge reported seeing a massive battle with a third loon, who may have killed a newly-hatched chick in a territorial battle. We don't really know what became of the loon eggs on Gregg Lake this year, but it was still a noteworthy event for the lake, and we hope they'll try again next year. □



**Children's Stage Adventures.** An amazing theater program for kids in Kindergarten through 8th grade! This is an exceptional musical theater experience that will be run afterschool the week of October 26, with performances on Friday October 30 and Saturday October 31. The cost to participate and final details will be released in early September.

**Jump Rope Club.** Grades 1–4 on Tuesdays after school for 4 weeks; starts November 3.

**Family Fun Night!** Come to the gym for a night of gym games like floor hockey, pickleball, basketball, and dodgeball, plus crafts. Free on Friday November 6 from 6:00–8:00 p.m. For kids and their families, this program is intended for the elementary aged child.

**Young Athletes Program.** A sports skills development program, sponsored by Antrim Recreation and Special Olympics for ALL kids ages 2–7 years old. Sign up and learn more on Friday October 23 at 3:30 p.m. This 6-week session runs on on Fridays 4:30–5:30 p.m. and starts November 6. Free. Volunteer coaches are needed.

**Lacrosse Clinics.** Two age groups: 6–9 and 10–14; Monday Nights October 5 through November 9. Ages 6–9 play from 5:30–6:15 p.m., and ages 10–14 play from 6:15–7:30 p.m.—under the lights!

**Basketball Clinic: 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade Girls and Boys.** Fridays October 9, 16, and 23 from 4:30–5:30 p.m.

**Pre-Season Basketball 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade boys** with Coach Holmes starts Thursday September 17 at 5:30 p.m.

**Miss Laura's Creative Dance Class:** Ages 3–6; Fridays 12:30 p.m., The 4-week sessions starts September 4.

#### **Some Recreation for Adults!!**

**CoEd Adult Ultimate Frisbee:** Sundays 4:00–6:00 p.m. starting September 13 at Shea Field.

**Yoga:** Tuesdays 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall

**Zumba:** Mondays/Wednesdays 5:30 p.m. at Antrim Town Gym

**Strength Training:** Thursdays 6:00 p.m. at Antrim Town Hall

**Adult Basketball:** Tuesdays 7:15–9:00 p.m. at Antrim Town Gym

**Pickleball:** Thursdays 4:30–6:00 p.m. and Saturdays 2:00–4:00 p.m. at Antrim Town Gym

**Adult Volleyball:** Thursdays 7:00 p.m. at Antrim Town Gym.

Check for updated information on the website: *antrimnh.org*, or the bulletin board at Town Hall. Call the Rec Dept. office at 588-3121 or email us at *antrimrecreation@tds.net*.



## **IS THERE A WITCH IN YOUR FAMILY TREE?**

Robin Rockwell

No, your mother-in-law doesn't count. However, I recently asked my friend, John Diemond, to do some genealogy research for me. He is a member of a genealogy web site and enjoys doing this. My question was, "Many people have asked me if I am related to artist Norman Rockwell (I was told in the past that I was but had no proof), and it would be nice to know, can you find out?" Norman is famous for his *Saturday Evening Post* cover illustrations he created for forty-seven years. John kindly agreed to get to work.

A few days later I received this email from him: "Rock, update on your family tree; your 9<sup>th</sup> Great-Grandmother, Mary (Perkins) Bradbury was convicted of being a witch at the Salem Witch Trials." My first thought was "You've got to be kidding me!" John told me later that my third generation grandfather, Albert Rockwell, married Arvilla Moody in the 1840's and made their home in Hancock. Arvilla Moody was a descendant of Mary (Perkins) Bradbury. It was Mary Bradbury's daughter, Judith, who married into the Moody family.

To make a long story short, Mary Bradbury at the age of 77 was convicted of witchcraft on September 9, 1692, during the Salem, Massachusetts, witch trials. Over a hundred friends and neighbors had testified on her behalf but to no avail. Witnesses testified that they had seen her change into a blue boar and that she had placed curses on ships that sank at sea. She was scheduled to be hanged thirteen days later along with four other women. However, her husband and his friends broke her out of jail (there is speculation they may have bribed the jailer) and she fled to Amesbury, Massachusetts. The other four women were not as fortunate and were hanged.

The next month, October 1692, a new governor put an end to the witchcraft trials and commuted any remaining convicted witches. Mary eventually returned to her home in Salisbury, Massachusetts, where she died in 1700. In 1711 the State of Massachusetts paid Mary's descendants twenty pounds as compensation for her ordeal. Over two hundred years later, in 1957, the State of Massachusetts offered an official apology for these trials.

Now, for the answer as to whether I am related to Norman Rockwell. The answer is yes. Norman Rockwell's 4<sup>th</sup> great-grandfather and my 6<sup>th</sup> great-grandfather are one and the same, John Rockwell, who was born in 1706 in Fairfield, Connecticut. That answers a lifelong question that has been dogging me for years. However, Norman Rockwell's talents sidestepped me but may have been passed on to my sister Bonnie's son, Gregg, who is an excellent artist. Greg graduated two years ago from the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, NY, and has a degree in architecture.

Is there a witch in your family tree?

(Editor's note: Robin Rockwell and his sister were raised in Antrim.) □

same. She remembered rubbing our backs and sitting on the blanket next to us, covering us with a light blanket if needed when we were asleep.

When it was time for lunch we would go to the picnic area and have homemade macaroni and potato salad with chicken on a stick. That was chicken drumsticks lightly fried in a little oil after being dipped in evaporated milk and corn flake crumbs. The stick was the bone. They were easy to eat and you could eat it with your hands, a thing we kids loved to do. We always had watermelon or cantaloupe for desert.

After lunch we would go to the other side of the beach to a special place only we knew about and would walk to another beach to where there were many things to see. There were inlets where Blue Claw Crabs would walk along and hide when they saw your shadow coming near them. There were baby Sand Sharks, Jellyfish, conch, and many other wonderful sea creatures. There were fresh bay scallops. I would use an underwater facemask and sit under the water real still and watch the scallops swim by. They would open and close pushing the water out of their shell would make them move. They had yellow and blue little dots on the edge of their inner shells when they were open. Grandma said the beach was our summer school to learn about nature. She taught us to write a story about what we did and saw each

week. It was helpful for the first days back at school when the teachers would ask us to write a story about what we did on vacation. I think grandma knew that. We would make a picture or two to go with our stories. She would save them and give them back to us to read out loud on a cold snowy day in the middle of winter. It warmed us up to have these gifts of days gone by.

I also remember at the edge of the shore there was natural sea heather growing. Sometimes with the wind it would break off and it would dry up on the beach. We would pick it up and grandma would make a flower arrangement for the table when we got back to the house, adding whatever other flowers we found. Sometimes it was Queens Ann's Lace, our favorite. Grandma showed me how to use it for more arts and crafts. If we dipped it in paint and touched paper it would make beautiful pictures. We would add some of the pressed dried flower we made. Grandma was full of great ideas and things to do.

At the end of summer when it was time to go back home, Dad would try to pick up the box of grandma's treasures to put in the car, but many times he would have to leave half behind due to the weight of the rocks. The back end of the car would sink and was unsafe to drive. He never told grandma and she never missed them. It was his and mom's secret. □



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## A HEART IN THE WOODS

Charles Butterfield

Most every summer I walk the length of Antrim's Whiton Road, from Bass Farm to the fire station, for old time's sake. The road was named to honor the first minister called to serve Antrim, Rev. John Whiton (1785-1856). Whiton wrote the first history of Antrim in the 1830s. He built and lived for a time at what we know as Bass Farm, and later moved to "the manse" which still stands near the Old Pound Road fork. His handsome brick Presbyterian meetinghouse was next door.

As I understand it, Whiton Road is a section of what was called, as of 1777, the "leading road" that ran from what is now the bridge between Antrim and Bennington over the Contoocook River up Meetinghouse Hill and down into North Branch. The present Clinton Road (Route 31) replaced much of that leading road.

Compared to Clinton Road, Whiton Road is a much more comfortable place to walk in the summer, both for people and horses, not only because there is no traffic to contend with these days, but because the old road is densely shaded and much more level, the only steep grade occurring at the Bass Farm end. Whiton skirts Great Brook, of no concern to the contemporary hiker, perhaps, but an important consideration in the old days of trail blazing.

I walk Whiton Road for the personal associations it carries. My great-grandparents farmed beside this road, very near Elizabeth Robertson's house. Bill Butterfield raised chickens, and Abbie (Parmenter) raised vegetables to feed their eight children. In 1892, responding to a diagnosis of cancer, Abbie swallowed iodine to kill herself. My grandfather Charles raced down Whiton Road to summon medical help for his mother. But it was too far and he too late. I think of him in his anguish, prodding his horse where I trudge along this once vital route to the village.

Where I walk, near Robertson's, the woods between Congreve Road and Whiton crowd both roads. But I remember haying in fields here where tall trees stand. Haying small fields, while not efficient, beat working the bigger spreads where the work seemed interminable under the hot sun. As a teenager I didn't find haying to be much fun, but in short spurts, as in these two-acre fields, it was tolerable.

When the haying season ended, and then through the fall months, I rode my saddle horse over Antrim's many gravel

roads. Since Whiton Road was conveniently close to our farm, just a little ways down Congreve Road behind our barn, I could squeeze in a ride after school and before chore time. While Whiton Road may have had heavy traffic once, in the 1940s, as now, a boy on horseback, or a hiker on foot, was usually alone.

For solitude after a stressful day at school, I often chose to take Whiton Road home from the village instead of climbing Brooks' Hill and then Abbot's Hill with my schoolmates. The cool woods gave welcome relief on a hot September afternoon. The soft moss underfoot was a godsend after the scorching, hard pavement.



Lost in my reminiscences, I almost missed a wooden heart poised beside the road, its streaked grain blending perfectly with its sylvan setting. It startled me. I had been seeing signs of a lumbering operation where I walked, and I silently thanked the trucks and equipment for keeping my old haunt open and passable. But a five-foot high maple heart in the woods?

It appears that a large tree, bifurcated near its base, provided two logs above its split. Once these logs were cut away, the remaining divided trunk suggested to a creative woodsman that with some careful shaving with his chainsaw a

wooden valentine would emerge from the tall stump. Sawing off a little here and a little there, stepping back to assess his handiwork before proceeding, the woodcutter found the heart in the tree.

Why did he make the effort and take the time? As he shaped the heart from the heartwood, the artisan might have supposed that someday, even ages from now, some woodland hiker would come along occupied by everything Whiton Road offered, both in memory and in actuality, and be startled by his remote creation. And for the time the hiker stood, amazed and delighted before the tall, hardy sculpture, they would be connected—the wood carver and the viewer. A memory would be born.

The hardwood heart will be a mystery to that future hiker. He or she won't know who made it or why it came to be. But for us who saunter in the woods today, it is good to know that Peter Gagne carved this piece as a symbol of his satisfaction with the landowner who hired him to cut timber.

 — continued next page

## ANTRIM GRANGE NEWS

Beth Merrill

We held our 13<sup>th</sup> annual Art Show in June with several new artists displaying their work. We acknowledge and thank Bank of New Hampshire for sponsoring the People's Choice Award, won by Louis Hugron for his model of the Antrim Stone Church. For the third year, Rick and Diane's Restaurant sponsored the Pizza Box Art Contest with Diane Gutgesell winning top honors. The Ukulele Society of Antrim provided live music at the opening gala. We are grateful for the support of these local businesses as well as all the talented exhibitors who generously share their work with us each year.

The annual mystery ride meeting was held in June this year, with members finding their final destination at Ideal Compost in Peterborough whereupon they were provided a tour of the facility by owner and fellow Peterborough Grange member, Mike Lombard. Ideal Compost provided the soil for the two raised beds of the community garden that was constructed this spring behind the Town Hall. Many people have noted how exceptionally well the garden has grown with clients of the Food Pantry and various community members enjoying the bounty.

The July meeting was designated as Youth Night. Lecturer, Renee Gerritsen prepared the program of fun games and activities and encouraged those in attendance to come dressed in their best 60's attire. With Chris Heath, Master of the NH State Grange, among the visitors we hosted that evening, it was an enjoyable time. Antrim Grange was represented at the recent NH Grange Youth Rally in Franconia and at the Northeast Grange Youth Conference in Rhode Island.

Ten Antrim Grange members ventured for the first time to the NH Motor Speedway in Loudon in July to join with a few hundred other volunteers to pick up trash after a race day. NHMS has a program where they pay non-profit groups to be their clean-up crew on race weekends. It was a learning experience, but one that we hope to repeat in the future as we work

### A Heart in the Woods continued

(Peter might well have left some other sign had he been displeased with the owner.)

To find this appealing specimen of environmental art, walk down Congreve Road past the whimsical warning tacked to a tree: "WEIGHT LIMIT – SUBURU SIZE OR SMALLER," and where the gravel road takes a sharp turn to the left to join the maintained portion of Whiton Road, turn right and walk along the woods road about one hundred and fifty yards. Look for the heart on your right.

I hope I can return again and again to Whiton Road to reminisce, of course, but also to observe, as seasons come and go, the weathering of this symbol of satisfaction. □

to raise funds for our Grange hall and community projects.

Beth Merrill attended the Northeast Grange Lecturers' Conference in Standish, Maine and participated in the NH program "100 Years in Music."

Putting on a supper at the Grange hall is an interesting and challenging task due to the special problems of our historic building, but with great teamwork our members pulled off the second annual Summah Suppah. Thanks to Antrim Lumber, Rick and Diane's Restaurant, Patten Hill Farm, and Old Pound Road Sugarhouse for their donations to our third annual Penny Sale, in addition to all the folks who provided the other 175+ prizes. We are so grateful for the support of our community.

Fair season is upon us, and the Antrim Grange exhibit at Cheshire Fair, created by Dawne Hugron and Gloria Davis, received a blue ribbon. "Everything in Our Grange is Ship Shape" will also be entered at Hopkinton, Hillsborough County, and Deerfield Fairs throughout the fall.

The end of October will have many of our members, three of which are state officers, attending the annual State Grange session, this year in Shelburne. In November, Arthur Merrill and Bob and Adam Paquin-Varnum will travel to Lincoln, NE, for the National Grange convention.

Keep abreast of our activities and programs in local papers, on our Facebook page, or on our website at [grange.org/ant-rimnh98](http://grange.org/ant-rimnh98). □

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## DRUG MISUSE

Kathleen Robbins

The Monadnock Community Hospital “Be the Change” Behavioral Health Task Force will be presenting an informational forum on Substance Misuse at the Antrim Town Hall on October 6, 2015, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

The New Hampshire Drug Monitoring Initiative reports that drug deaths increased by 55% in 2014 as compared to 2013. There were 326 deaths from overdoses in NH last year with 80 of them in Hillsborough County. Heroin use has become epidemic and has been declared a Public Health emergency. The problem grows worse all the time. There are more deaths from overdoses than traffic fatalities in NH.

The hope is that parents and their tweens and teens will attend, as well as interested community members. It is very important that everyone have an increased awareness of this serious problem and it will promote a dialogue with parents and their children about drug and alcohol use.

The process to addiction may start out with what a parent thinks is just “typical teen experimentation” with alcohol and/or marijuana. It may progress to much heavier use of these substances, then to trying new drugs such as prescription meds like pain pills, tranquilizers and stimulants. The brain may start craving more of the pain pills but they are very expensive and difficult to obtain. Usually, someone will introduce a teen to heroin as it will target the same area of the brain as the pain pills and it is cheaper and more readily available. The user promises himself that he will only snort or smoke it but the nature of heroin demands a better, more intense high and the drug is now injected. Someone’s child has now become a junkie. Parents must realize that even the straight A student and the star athlete are at risk.

There are risk factors such as family dynamics and genetics that will be discussed and it is hoped that attendees will gain a better understand of the POWER of addiction. There will be guest speakers who have had a personal experience with addiction. There will also be a Question and Answer period.

A short video “Alex’s Story” will be shown. Alex is an 18 year-old NH resident who describes how he progressed from a good student and athlete to shooting heroin in a short amount of time.

It is also hoped that young people will be encouraged to attend by the teen-friendly door prizes. Light refreshments will be served.

In addition, Grapevine Parenting Educator Carol Lunnan, M.Ed, will present a brief overview of “Guiding Good Choices,” a workshop which research shows is effective in improving family communication and preventing alcohol, drug and tobacco use by adolescents. Parents of youth ages 9 to 14 years are encouraged to call The Grapevine to register for this 5 week session course which will take place at Great Brook School beginning Tuesday, October 13. See the Grapevine’s article in this *Limrik* for more information. □

## GETTING OLDER

Schatze Moore

I am getting older. I have been getting older since the day I was born, and there have been many occasions when getting older was exactly what I wanted, mostly because getting older meant greater and greater independence for me. No, I have never minded getting older. I am 61 now and I kind of marvel at that, because when you are young you never think that you could ever be 61 years old.

Yes, I am getting older but during this process I have never felt old, that is until recently. The very day after Memorial Day, just before going to work, I was walking on a trail in our woods with my husband and our dog when all of a sudden I felt myself flying through the air and my legs frantically scissoring in the air. Next I heard “snap” and I felt considerable pain. When my feet finally touched earth and stopped moving I had to lean against a tree for support because I did not know if I was going to throw up, pass out or both. As I leaned against that tree my mind was busy assessing just how serious an injury had I sustained. I was wondering if I had broken my femur or maybe my hip, but no, even though painful I was able to bear weight on my left leg.

Peter, my husband, was walking ahead of me when this surprising event happened, but all I could tell him when he walked back to check on me, was that, “Yes, maybe I tripped on a root or something, but I really can’t be sure.”

Needless to say, my activities were sharply curtailed for about a month because walking was not only uncomfortable but my left leg could not extend in its normal manner. I am no novice to injury and its resulting pain and incapacitation, my first serious injury having occurred when I was eight years of age. I was riding a pony who upon being sharply slapped on its hindquarters by my cousin turned and was galloping for the safety of its barn. I lost the reins, my foot slipped through the stirrup and I was being dragged by this highly frightened creature down a very rough asphalt road. I was nearly skinned alive by that accident.

But, no, injuries happen and so does healing though the healing process takes longer than it did for the injury to occur. This time, though, along with the convalescing period went thoughts of my aging self and I felt old and all done in. I felt limited and fearful of hurting myself again. I felt like I should retire to the rocking chair. I told a couple of my friends about these feelings and they laughed. They told me “No, not on your life.”

So, there, I shall continue getting older, but on the good advice from friends, I will fight feeling old. □

“Be careful about reading health books.  
You may die of a misprint.”

— Mark Twain

## TUTTLE LIBRARY NEWS

Melissa Lawless, Laurie Cass-Griggs, Ann Putnam, Kathy Chisholm

### Programs

Month of September • Library Card Sign-Up Month

Sat. Sept. 19 • Home and Harvest Day Open House with refreshments 11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

Sat. Nov. 21 • International Games Day@Your Library 10:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

### Summer Reading Recap

This year's Summer Reading Program, "Every Hero Has a Story," was a huge success! Over 35 children signed up in the program by reading or listening to books and by joining the activities such as story-times and crafts. Also popular was our weekly guessing jar. Congratulations to all the winners who guessed the closest and came in to collect their prizes!

Of course, the most exciting part of the Summer Reading Program was the performance of internationally acclaimed storyteller Odds Bodkin in July. This special event filled the library with music and enthralled listeners of all ages. Thank you for participating in this year's Summer Reading Program!

### Downton Abbey Raffle Basket

Are you a Downton Abbey Fan? Most of us here at the library are overly fond of this wonderful BBC Production, and because of this we are offering up a very special raffle basket. The basket is filled with all things "Downton" including English tea, a handmade teapot cozy, as well as a copy of "Downton Abbey, Season 1", "The Unofficial Downton Abbey Cookbook," and many wonderful items from both America and "across the pond."

Proceeds of ticket sales will benefit the library. Come in to see it for yourself and purchase tickets!

### Community Art Display

We are delighted to be displaying the inspired talents of several of our local artists throughout the month of Sep-

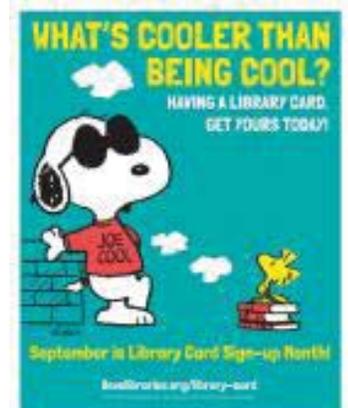
tember. Contributors to our exhibit are the Antrim Baptist Women—baby quilts and prayer shawls; Liz Brett—decorative ceramic tiles; Jim Burnham—geometric quilts; Linda Dessaint—pastel painting; Diane Gutgesell—painted mushrooms and slate; Bailey Kirkpatrick—paper mosaic; Virginia Pereira—local nature photography; Hope Phillips—pastel painting and illustrated children's books; Lindsey Ramsey—handcrafted jewelry, and Carole Storro—mixed media. It's a feast for the eyes, so be sure to take a good look at their artwork during our Open House on Home & Harvest Day. There will be plenty of food and cider available.

### Library Card Sign-Up Month

This September, Snoopy, the world-famous beagle, who has been known as The Flying Ace, The Masked Marvel, and Man's Best Friend, is adding a new title to his resume as Honorary Chair of Library Card Sign-up Month. As Honorary Chair, Snoopy reminds

parents and caregivers, children, and teens that the coolest card of all is a library card. From finding a job, starting a new business, to getting homework help, and becoming more engaged in the community, a library card offers limitless opportunities to transform lives through education and lifelong learning. Thousands of public and school libraries

join together each fall in a national effort to ensure every child signs up for their own library card. If you don't already own a library card, come on over to the Tuttle Library and sign up for one. Please be sure to bring some form of proof that you are an Antrim resident.



—continued on page 26



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### International Games Day @ Your Library

It's time to mark your calendars for this year's International Games Day@Your Library. This year libraries will be celebrating games and play on Saturday, November 21st. For those who wonder what, exactly, International Games Day@Your Library is—it is a chance to celebrate games, libraries, and communities around the world. Last year was very successful with over 1,200 libraries from around the world participating. Basically, it's just a date when a whole bunch of libraries all over the world agree to play games in a spirit of co-operation. People of all ages are encouraged to stop by the Library to play video games on the computer or board games. Come with friends or come on your own.

### New Staff Member

Stop by and say hello to our new circulation assistant at the library, Ann Putnam. She also works part-time at the Savidge Library at the MacDowell Colony, as well as being an occasional assistant to the Admissions Director there. Her background is in Early Childhood Education, having taught preschool and Kindergarten for 14 years in both Montessori Schools and in Head Start Schools. Her husband Ben teaches at CONVAL, where their son Caleb is a junior, and daughter Rayla is in her second year at Colby-Sawyer College. Ann is looking forward to meeting all of you! □

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sharon Dowling, Music Director/ Evensong Coordinator

Greetings from the church people with the clock in the steeple! Time has certainly flown by this summer, and we will be knee deep in falling leaves before we know it. It has been a quiet summer at First Presbyterian, but there have been Session meetings, farewells to good friends Pam and Steve Campbell, once a month choir Sundays, and continuing work on New Beginnings. By the time you are reading this, there will have been another successful VBS (Vacation Bible School) joint venture between the Presbys and the Baptists, an unusual collaboration of churches, but one in which Antrim takes great pride. In fact, we were able to help, and be helped by, the Methodist Church in Hillsboro, with VBS props and music. This is the kind of exchange and cooperation between faith-based organizations we can celebrate.

### NEW BEGINNINGS

While our New Beginnings committee has prayed over, processed, and readied the new Mission and Vision statements for our church community, Session weighed in on the final versions, and now we need to present and discuss them with the congregation. We will begin that process via newsletter and discussion in September and October. Our hope is to also have specific ideas available for implementing our new Mission and Vision. If you are interested in learning how First Presbyterian plans to switch from the membership model to a discipleship model of "church," and be the hands and feet of Christ in our community and the global community beyond, please join us any Sunday, or ask our folks about it when you see us out and about. Home and Harvest may also be a great time to share our message of Unconditional Love and Life Everlasting, so look for us on the church lawn!

### CELTIC EVENSONG

September and October are also typical months for restarting choir and Sunday School on a weekly basis. For the past five years, October also meant the starting of a new season of Celtic Evensong. Sadly, Melissa Lawless and I have seen a significant drop off in attendance this past year, and at the same time, I have lost most of my pool of musicians to moves, college, etc. We know that this is a wonderful worship service that touches lives as people often leave in tears and with thanks for the beautiful experience. It is a service we both love doing for the community. It has always been a welcoming, non-denominational, ecumenical offering, involving faiths outside of Christianity as well as the profound insights of Celtic Christianity. So, we are going to take some time off. We may rethink the format and the schedule, and will need to find some more willing musicians and vocalists, readers and volunteers to set up and take down the candles. Not sure if we will need a year, or just a few months to regroup, but watch for our sign out front, watch for ads in the local papers, and always feel free to call the office at 588-2209. Let us know your thoughts. □

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**Antrim**  
*Home & Harvest Festival*

**Friday, September 18**

**4:00–5:00 p.m. Drop off Baked-Bean Entry at Tenney Farm**

**5:00–7:30 p.m. BBQ Cookout (a non-alcoholic event)**

**5:30–7:30 p.m. Free Concert by Bursitis Brothers**

**7:30 p.m. FIREWORKS by Atlas at Tenney Farm**  
(donations appreciated)

**Parking at Rymes only – NO PARKING on Route 202**

**5:00–8:30 p.m. Shuttle Bus to Tenney Farm every 1/2 hour from Antrim Retirement Village, Town Hall, and GBS Middle School**

**Saturday, September 19**

**8:00–10:00 a.m. Breakfast: Presbyterian Church**

**9:00 a.m. –3:00 p.m. Arts, Crafts, and Flea Market on Main Street**

**9:00 a.m. –3:00 p.m. Fun & Games: behind Town Hall and parking lot next to Trends of Fashion**

**10:30 a.m. –2:30 p.m. Historical Society Apple Crisp Social in front of the Maplehurst Inn**

**10:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Open House & Community Art Display at the Tuttle Library**

**11:30 a.m. Parade from North Main Street to the Tuttle Library**

**12:00 noon–3 p.m. Two live bands**

**“The Kingsnakes” next to the Bank of NH**

**“Decatur Creek” next to the Maplehurst Inn**

**1 p.m. Rick’s Rockin’ Regatta Race behind Town Hall**

**3:00 p.m. Hand Tossed Pizza Contest at Rick & Diane’s**  
(Benefit MS Society)

**7:00–9:00 p.m. Roller Skating with DJ at Antrim Town Gym (for all ages)**

## THREE DECADES OF DAWNE AND SONNY HUGRON'S FOOD PANTRY

Sandy Snow

You may not know them as they work quietly out of their home and a tiny twelve foot square space in the basement of the Antrim Baptist Church. They are Louis (Sonny) and Dawne Hugron, who for a large number of people in Antrim and Bennington, make all the difference in the world.

The couple operates the Antrim and Bennington Food Pantry that provides free food for families who cannot afford it. Dawne, the Pantry coordinator, says that with so much food coming and going to and from the Pantry, the operation has to operate much like a commercial grocery. "Shelves need to be cleaned periodically, expired food has to be weeded out and thrown away, cardboard boxes have to be recycled, and meticulous records must be kept." Then there are the tasks of gathering the food in the first place and then making it available every Saturday from 10 am to noon. However, Dawne says, people in need show up at any time.

The Hugron's selfless dedication cannot operate without tremendous support from people in the community and surrounding businesses. In 2014 they gave out 12,165 food items to 1,476 clients. Where does all that food come from? A small army operates behind the scenes, and Antrim's Boy Scouts conduct two big food drives each year. They distribute collection boxes in local towns, and drop-off points include Bank of New Hampshire, Rick and Diane's Brick Oven Pizzeria, Antrim Presbyterian Church, Bennington Town Hall, and The Grapevine. Scouts also contact private donors, and they go to homes to make pick-ups. GBS, AES, and the Internet Club at ConVal also collect food for the Pantry.

However, private donations are not the whole story of where all the food comes from. At the end of the growing year, Tenney Farm contributes fresh vegetables, and one local woman, drops off three cans of food every week. Other people donate their chickens' eggs, Shaw's Market donates day-old bread and pastries every Friday, and the Dollar General Store in Hillsborough is very generous, donating all sorts of useful items. Edmunds Hardware and many other local merchants also help. The Crotched Mountain Ski area calls her after the ski season is over and provides as many as three full vans of food. "I want to hug them all," Dawne says.

This moving story of the Hugrons' helping the needy has its beginnings in another moving event. On the night of St. Patrick's Day, 1987, a devastating fire destroyed the historic 1849 Woodbury house where the Post Office and Police Department are now located. The fire destroyed apartments occupied by twelve families and left more than twenty-five people with only the clothes on their backs. Sam Schriener, Pastor of the Presbyterian Church, and Phillip and Jane Mushenrose, Ministers of the Baptist Church, threw open their doors to the homeless families. Reverend

Schriener called Nina Harding and asked her to go shopping for groceries and whatever else she thought was needed. As Dawne recalls, "We all gathered towels and face cloths and any other items we could think of to assist the folks from the fire. In the days that followed, everyone was kept very busy. I remember Nina saying, 'I've lost count of how many hands and faces I have helped wash this day.'"

According to Dawne, "The churches, families, and friends made many calls to the Red Cross for cots and blankets, and to any other local agencies that would help us to help the homeless families." The Red Cross brought the cots and blankets and in the days that followed the local newspapers wrote articles about the need for food and clothing. "Within a week our churches were blessed with more clothing and food. And the Monadnock Community Hospital food director delivered a pickup-full of canned food and frozen meat."

Wayno's (now Antrim Market Place) brought bacon, eggs, milk, and juices. For the volunteers, the work was never over, even after days and weeks of effort. "All our kitchens were busy in the days ahead." And, the churches, in the weeks to come, became refuges for the displaced families, some of whom stayed for as long as a week. A few of the workers caring for them also stayed in the churches.

"To the amazement of us all, the food kept coming in, everything from canned vegetables to produce to coffee." But this posed another problem of where all the food was going to be stored "I remember someone suggesting putting it on the shelves in the basement of the Baptist Church under the sanctuary."

Thus was born the Antrim Bennington Food Pantry. Today, the day-to-day needs facing the food Pantry are almost as urgent as they were in 1987. There is no doubt about the vital need it still fulfills for our neighbors, and food donations are gratefully welcome today just as they were three decades ago. Let us give thanks to Dawne and Sonny Hugron.



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## WILLARD POND OR BUST!

Cornelia E. Brown

Ever since my grandmother visited her college English professor on White Birch Point some one-hundred years ago, our family has had the great happiness of spending summer weeks on the shores of Gregg Lake. We've discovered caves under giant boulders on Patten Hill, created a depth chart of the entire lake, canoed two-bridges-deep into the swamp north of the Public Beach, counted rusted bed frames in the abandoned Antrim Boy Scout Camp, even met Hattie Brown, thirty years ago, and witnessed the arrival and disappearance of the road sign bearing her name.

But we have never been able to walk from the lake we know and love to its smaller neighbor, Willard Pond. The pond is in the Audubon dePierrefeu Willard Pond Wildlife Sanctuary. No petroleum engines are allowed, and it is fly-fishing only. The founding mission is "Peace among all beings." Several times, we have tried to reach the pond via the legendary Sachem Boy Scout trail and always got lost in a maze of marsh and beaver dam. Recently, we copped out and traveled there by car via rural road from Hancock. We washed our faces in the clear water and climbed Bald Mountain off its western shore, but still we had not yet truly discovered the pond. For that, we had to go on foot.

Last year after entering our family cottage on Gregg Lake to start our precious summer stay, I noticed the *Outdoor Guide to Antrim and Bennington New Hampshire* (published in 2009 by the Antrim Bennington Lions Club) lying near our groceries. It had probably been placed in view by a family member for those of us arriving later in the summer. Immediately I wondered, will the *Guide* perhaps show a path from Gregg Lake to Willard Pond?

The *Outdoor Guide* has in its center pages a map encompassing both Gregg Lake and Willard Pond. The map, however, does not show any path between them. Didn't the colonial settlers of the Contoocook Valley, the ones who built those enduring stone walls, want to link the two bodies of water, and wouldn't some traces remain of their efforts? Armed with the Lion's Club *Guide*, my son, Samuel, and I decided that summer 2014 was "Willard Pond or Bust!" First, we'd try to reach it from the Balancing Rock floating in the marshy waste north of the pond, and, if that failed, we'd bushwhack from Brimstone Corner Road up Goodhue Hill and descend to the pond from the east.

Inspired by the center-page map, we took a narrow dirt road towards Balancing Rock, starting at the intersection of Brimstone Corner Road and the upper entrance to Camp Chenoa. We hiked about a mile to a small set of buildings (which we learned later were Francis Whittemore's) and noticed a sign to Balancing Rock pointing into the woods due right. Due right was wrong for the pond, we reasoned, since Robb Mountain was up that way. We continued on our nar-

row dirt road hoping it would head south to the pond. Unfortunately, the road soon bent northwards and up. Abandoning this strategy, we descended to try the approach via Goodhue Hill. We parked near the Price Farm and hiked further along Brimstone Corner Road, avoiding numerous boulders and puddles. We passed the southern end of Gregg Lake and started peering west through the woods for signs of Goodhue Hill. Puzzled, we continued to see sky instead of the darkness that would herald a rise. We briefly tested a couple of logging roads, but they kept running to marsh. Samuel did capture (and release) a small army of frogs. Evening fell, and we still had not succeeded in our quest. Regretfully, we traipsed back to our car. Before driving off, I spotted a neighbor resting on her steps and walked over to tell her our story, just in case.

The idea worked. We met Joan and Frank Gorga, the perfect guides. Retired biologists, they photograph local wildlife and hike the Gregg Lake region year-round. On their kind offer, the four of us met the next morning. We tramped out a circular hiking route and learned not just one but two ways to walk between Gregg Lake and Willard Pond.

Here's the Gorgas' route. Take the narrow dirt road to Francis Whittemore's homestead. Once there, ignore the sign to Balancing Rock pointing hard right. Continue along the road for another 1000 feet into a grassy clearing on the left. Cross the clearing, and you'll be amazed by a guidepost reading "To Willard Pond." From there, just follow the blue blazes, and in less than 30 minutes, you'll see the pond glinting through the trees. When you arrive at the pond's edge, bear right, passing the trail up Bald Mountain and the circular marshy area where loons have nested, and you will reach the road to Hancock. To top off your day, take a dip in Willard Pond. Even without my glasses, I could see the bottom at 20 feet deep, like swimming inside a cool cedar-tinted diamond.

From the road, you can return to Gregg Lake via Goodhue Hill. Take the Mill Pond Nature Trail to the Goodhue Hill trail sign. Follow it for an energetic scramble up to the flat top that has been logged and is jammed with berry bushes. Watch out for black bears in mid-summer! Perhaps happily for us, no berries remained when we came in August. On the far side, you'll find a ledge with views of Pack Monadnock and the daddy mountain. To reach Gregg Lake, descend along a nearby stonewall, keeping your back to the pond. Soon you will spy orange blazes. These will eventually lead you to Knight's Road at the bottom. When the road forks, go left, past a splayed harvesting machine that resembles a double-jointed dinosaur. Soon you'll emerge onto Brimstone Corner Road and then back home, feeling proud. □

# THE GRAPEVINE

Kristen Vance

## Worried about your child and drugs?

*Guiding Good Choices* begins October 13—Space is limited, so call now to reserve your place. If you're a parent of a 9–14 year old and you missed this workshop last year, this is your opportunity to build the family communication skills that can help your child steer clear of drugs, alcohol, and other risky behaviors. The workshop meets five Tuesday evenings in October and November, with onsite childcare and Rick and Diane's pizza both provided free of charge. The only cost is \$15 for the workbook, thanks to the generous sponsorship by Bank of New Hampshire. This series is a partnership of The Grapevine, Great Brook and Antrim Elementary Schools, and their PTOs.

## Grapevine Online Auction Starts November 1!

Do your holiday shopping AND support The Grapevine through the Second Annual Grapevine Online Auction November 1<sup>st</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>. Bid on over 400 items from antiques and art to show tickets and handmade items, to gift certificates, and services. Much like a silent auction, but run online. Donating an item is a great way for local businesses, artists, and other vendors to promote their goods and services. Have something you would like to donate to the auction? Please give us a call at 588-2620.

## Workshop for Early Childhood Educators

At the request of early childhood educators who have participated in their workshops before, Grapevine parenting educators Carol Lunan M.Ed and Nancy Macalaster MA are offering *Play and Communication: How do we break out of the box?* on Saturday, November 14 from 8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Through discussion and activities participants will explore their perceptions about play and communication, the links between them, and implications for brain development. Carol and Nancy are NH State certified trainers of early childhood educators, and this workshop will provide participants four hours of staff development. The fee is \$50. For more information and to register call The Grapevine.

## Grandparents Parenting Grandchildren

If you are parenting your grandchildren, you are not alone. "Grandparents Parenting Grandchildren" meets monthly and is free. Grapevine parenting educator Carol Lunan and River Center parenting educator Wendy Hill co-facilitate discussions on topics of interest to participants. Guest speakers are invited to lead discussions in their area of expertise, for example, last year a lawyer discussed issues related to custody and adoption, and a psychologist talked about trauma and related issues.

The first meeting of the school year is Saturday, September 12 from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon at The Grapevine. Carol and Wendy will talk about parenting styles and other

parenting information, and the group will talk about ideas for future topics. Call 588-2620 and ask for Carol for more information, and to let us know you're coming and if you will need childcare.

## WEEKLY CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS Begin September 8

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

- Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 9:30–11:30 a.m. **Better Beginnings** playgroups and parent groups
- Wednesday and Friday 9–11:30 a.m. **The Learning Vine** preschool
- Wednesday 10:00–11:30 a.m. and 1:00–2:30p.m. **Better Beginnings for Babies**—expectant parents welcome!

**Better Beginnings playgroups and parent groups** give children an opportunity to play in an enriching environment while parents enjoy time with each other in an adjacent room for coffee and tea, and discussions about child-and family-centered topics with our parenting educators.

**Better Beginnings for Babies** offers parents a great way to meet other parents while their babies make their first friends. Discussions include infant development, nutrition, crying (and what to do!), sleep for baby and parents, and others of interest. 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.

**Learning Vine preschool for children** 3 ½ to 5 years old. *We have Space Available for the 2015-16 school year!* This hands-on program focuses on social interaction and problem solving skills in a small group setting to help prepare children for school in a fun and engaging environment. Choose the program that's best for you and your child: Two or three mornings per week, with afternoon enrichment in the spring to prepare your child for Kindergarten.

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

## Come play with us!

If you enjoy being with young children and have some experience, The Grapevine's children's enrichment program might be the right fit for you. We are looking for a weekly volunteer (approximately 3 hours per week) for our morning program. You will be well supported by our great program staff, but enjoyment of active time with young children is a must! Call 588-2620 and ask for Amy to learn more.

## Getting the wood in

The wood bank is in need of donations of firewood. Our favorite form is cut-split-delivered, but we can come to your

✍️ — continued

place to cut and haul tree lengths as well. And we're always looking for volunteers to join the Community Wood Bank Team. People with chainsaws and trucks are especially encouraged, but we could really use volunteers who would like to get a good workout splitting and stacking as well. Call 588-2620 to help.

**Thank you** to the many people who supported The Grapevine in so many ways over the summer, including:

- The **many families and shoppers** who gave to the Learning Vine Yardsale—raising over \$900 to support the Learning Vine preschool.
- The **talented children and youth** who submitted their works of art to the Black Fly Community Art Show, and to Carol Storro for bringing her creativity to design and run the beautiful community art project.
- Our fabulous Avenue A volunteers who spend an occasional Friday evening chaperoning the teens, including **Sue Smith, Marcia and Steve Ullman, Sue Conklin and Matt Ferrisi.**

### The People's Service Exchange

The PSE is a Time Banking Project of The Grapevine, where members get the help they need and share their skills with others. Examples of services exchanged: Help moving, help with firewood, Reiki, tutoring, sewing, massage, financial consulting and light maintenance. It's easy to join! For more information, contact Nancy O'Brien at 588-2620 or [pse@grapevinenh.org](mailto:pse@grapevinenh.org) or visit [www.pse-nh.org](http://www.pse-nh.org).

### Before and After School Clubs 2015-2016

Call The Grapevine to register your Elementary School or Great Brook School student in the Before or After School Club for the coming school year. The programs operate on the Antrim schools campus on school days, with **Before School** running from **6:45 to 8:20 a.m.** and **After School** from **3:20 to 5:30 p.m.** The programs include quiet time to read and finish homework, board games, Legos, and activities outside and in the gym. You may pick up registrations at the Rec Office at the Town Gym or at The Grapevine, or download from [www.GrapevineNH.org](http://www.GrapevineNH.org).

### Senior Exercise

Are you 60 or older and looking for a local, affordable, friendly way to maintain and increase your strength, balance and independence? Call us about Senior Exercise on Tuesdays and Fridays at 1:30 p.m.

### Services Available at The Grapevine...

- Assistance with applications for food stamps and other State assistance
- Community Wood Bank—Opens November 1, call if you need wood, have wood to donate, or can help cut and split
- Child and family counseling through Monadnock Family Services
- Information and assisted referral for resources to meet basic needs such as housing, home heating, food and prescriptions

The Grapevine is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit family and community resource center located at 4 Aiken Street, behind the Tuttle Library. For more information call us at 588-2620, email us at [admin@GrapevineNH.org](mailto:admin@GrapevineNH.org) or visit our website at [www.GrapevineNH.org](http://www.GrapevineNH.org). We gratefully accept donations, which are tax deductible. No contribution is too small—or too big! Please make your check payable to The Grapevine and mail it to PO Box 637, Antrim 03440. □



Standing from left: Roland Patten, Chris' Concert organizer Cheryl Barlow, Grapevine Treasurer Rose Novotny, and concert organizer Denise Barlow. Seated: Grapevine Family Support Programs Director Carol Lunan (holding her granddaughter, Brynn Lunan-Hill), and Kristen Olsen Vance, Grapevine Director. Children are Quinn Coombs, Abi and Izzy Hardwick and Jessica Couturier.



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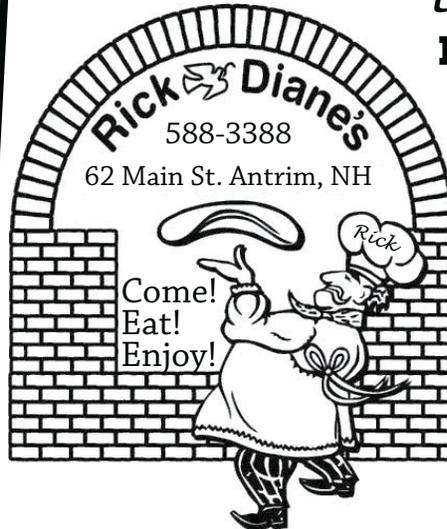
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