

BEEHIVE OVEN

Virginia Dickinson

When you're heading out of town on Route 31 you may get a whiff of baking bread as you wind up the hill towards Gregg Lake. Your nose may be giving you a hint of the location of a new outdoor beehive bread oven, known as "Carmella" to her baker-owner Nancy Benda, her husband, Terry, and the stone mason who built her, András Lazar.

Nancy loves to bake bread, and had dreamed of having an outdoor baking oven built next to her house so she would be able to bake bread the old-fashioned way. When the time came to make the dream a reality, Nancy was fortunate to live in the Granite State, and specifically in Antrim, because the town has a number of skilled masons capable of constructing this type of oven.

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Photo: Frank Gorga

Festival of Trees

Kristy Boulé

A true winter wonderland awaits visitors to Antrim's 7th annual Festival of Trees. Community members of all sorts, from the youngest among us to the most senior, have contributed to the festive winter ambiance by creating paper snowflakes of all types and sizes. The blizzard of snowflakes overhead on each floor of the Tuttle Library serves as a wintry backdrop to the many trees and displays. Voting for favorites will continue through 4 p.m. on December 10, and the popular-for-all-ages Scavenger Hunt will continue through the entire season. This year's fundraising raffle has been dubbed the "Home Décor Raffle," as it features three handmade items to enhance the lucky winner's seasonal decorating. Items include a hand-crocheted afghan in the traditional holiday colorway of red, green and white skillfully crafted and generously donated by Festival supporter Kerry Holt. There's also a holiday-themed red plaid and green tuffet custom-made for the event, as well as the gorgeous mesh poinsettia wreath that was a much-admired item at last year's Festival. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Proceeds are used to help offset the expenses of the Festival of Trees. A lively display of quilts and handcrafts on

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The Songs of Christmas

Charles Butterfield

They're at it again. As soon as the Halloween decorations disappeared from department stores, "Here Comes Santa Claus" sounded along the crowded aisles, reminding shoppers that Christmas is coming.

Christmas music was for years a big part of my family's preparations. My mother, my sister and I began rehearsing for the annual concert of seasonal music right after Thanksgiving. Along with a dozen others, we took our direction from our cousin Bess Felker, the school music teacher and choir director at the Antrim Baptist Church.

As Christmases came and went, I became the organist, my sister took over Bess's roles in the schools and church, and my mother continued to bring many a tear to the eye with her deep-voiced rendition of "O, Holy Night."

In harking back to those musical Christmases, I am reminded that when Antrim was founded by Scots Presbyterians in the 18th century, there was no Christmas music. There was no Christmas at all in Antrim.

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— NEWS DEADLINE —

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www.antrimlimrik.org

ANTRIM FIRE DEPARTMENT

Tod Bryer

As the winter heating season begins the Antrim Fire Department would like to remind everyone to properly clean and maintain their heating systems and chimneys. Also to make sure your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are up to date and in good working order. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

In other matters, the members of the fire department will attempt to repair our '26 REO fire engine over the winter. Most of these repairs will happen in-house utilizing the talents of our members. These repairs are needed to make the piece road-worthy. The goal is to have our original motorized apparatus available and in working order for parades and public display. Most of the repairs are minor with minimal cost but we will be exploring fundraising options over the winter. We would love to see the '26 roll again.

As always we are in need of volunteers to bolster our ranks. The Antrim Fire Department is an equal opportunity employer and no prior experience is necessary. We encourage anyone with interest to fill out an application which can be obtained from any current member. ❄

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SELECTBOARD UPDATE

Mike Genest

It is hard to believe that we will soon be turning the corner and heading into another year! Before we move on to 2017 let's recap what happened in 2016.

This month the Highland Ave./Pleasant Street project will be going to bid. The warrant article for this project was passed at last year's town meeting. We put a lot of time and effort into searching for grants for this project and are thrilled to report that we were awarded a \$433,000 grant from Rural Development.

New Hampshire Solar Garden just heard that they are receiving final approval from the State of New Hampshire so they can move forward with the solar array at the water treatment plant. They will begin construction by the end of the year and complete it in 2017.

The Highway Department recently completed paving Gregg Lake Road to S. Holt Hill Road. The Department's hire of Antrim resident Matt Hall means they are fully staffed going into winter.

Officer John Giffin was awarded the "Everyday Hero" award, which was presented by McDonald's Restaurants for community involvement. The Selectboard is extremely proud of all our dedicated employees.

Our 2016 tax rate was set at \$27.97. Although there was an increase in the local school rate of \$0.27 we're able to keep the town tax rate flat by applying fund balance in the amount of \$436,000. The Department of Revenue recommends that towns maintain a fund balance between 5% and 17% of general fund operating expenses. Antrim's is currently 10%. Any money we don't spend in our budget during the year goes to our fund balance and is returned to the tax payer by offsetting the tax rate in the fall.

As of this writing the Site Evaluation Committee (SEC) has one more hearing before making a final decision on the proposed wind farm by Antrim Wind Energy, LLC (AWE). If approved, AWE is planning to start construction by the end of 2016.

We now move into budget season and preparation for the 2017 Town Meeting, which will take place on Thursday, March 16, 2017. The election of Town officers will be on Tuesday, March 14, 2017.

We wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season. ✨

Thank you ...

to Richard Verney, owner of the Monadnock Paper Mills, for the generous donation of the paper on which the *Limrik* is printed.

ANTRIM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Steve Ullman, President

The Historical Society is continuing a project to record and archive interviews of local interest to be shared for future generations. Recently we recorded an interview with Eric Tenney on his history in Antrim government, including his three separate terms as a Selectboard member. You can see the raw interview on YouTube by doing a key word search of Antrim NH Historical Society or find the link on our Facebook page.

On the Saturday of Home and Harvest Days, I hope you stopped by the Antrim Historical Society booth located as usual in front of the historic Maplehurst Inn. Once again we offered our world-famous homemade Apple Crisp topped with vanilla ice cream. In addition, we sold the much-copied, but never equaled, AHS 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 woodworking.

On Sunday, October 18, we hosted a program starring two generations of Tenneys—Eric and Linda Tenney and their daughter, Crista Tenney Salamy. The Tenneys discussed the centuries-old Tenney family farming history. Capping off a 300-year history of Antrim agriculture, the Tenney Farm is arguably Antrim's last functioning farm.

On Sunday, November 20, we enjoyed reflections by Wayno Olson, whom I have designated "Antrim's Business Trailblazer." For decades, Wayno presided over several of Antrim's most prominent businesses. (Who among us doesn't still call Antrim Marketplace "Wayno's"?)



Wayno employed scores of Antrim residents, often in their first paid positions, and served thousands of customers with his everlasting good humor.

Barbara Black and Kathi Wasserloos designed our World War I-themed entry for this year's Festival of Trees.

In the spring, the AHS will be cooperating with Ms. Rachel Hill's third graders at AES in a project tracing the history of Antrim's mills.

To keep yourself informed about AHS programs, go to the Antrim Historical Society Facebook page. You are invited to join the Antrim Historical Society, which is dedicated to the celebration of Antrim's history. Dues are just \$10 a year for an individual and \$20 for an entire family. To join, please contact me at sullman@brockport.edu or 588-2005 or Eric Tenney at 588-2793. You can also join by sending a check to the Antrim Historical Society, P.O. Box 172, Antrim, NH 03440. ✨

loan from members of the community and the Monadnock Quilters Guild showcases the talents, traditions and artistry of our region. No trees or displays are for sale; they are meant for the enjoyment of all. Local crafters are encouraged to leave business cards.

Not-to-be-missed special events include two evenings outside of normal Library hours when the Festival is lit by holiday lighting only:

A Winter's Evening, Saturday, Dec. 10, 6–8 p.m., a special event featuring entertainment by Andrew Cass and Michelle Weber with a variety of seasonal musical and vocal performances on violin, guitar and more. Trees and displays will be presented in all their glory, as the entire 3-story Tuttle Library is lit by tree and holiday lighting only (no room lights allowed!). Seasonal treats both sweet and savory will warm the winter's evening. Ribbon winners from Tree Favorites voting will be announced. The Holiday Décor Raffle winner will be drawn at the evening's conclusion. Although free to all to attend, on this evening in particular, the Festival will be welcoming donations to help fund the annual community event.

Winter Songs and Stories, Wednesday, Dec. 14, 6–8 p.m., featuring background music for your tree browsing pleasure and readings or regaling of stories about winters growing up in Antrim and the Monadnock region. Seasonal treats will fill the tables.

The Festival continues through the month of December. It is open for your viewing pleasure, free of charge, during regular Library hours, Mon. and Wed. 2–6 p.m., Tues. and Thurs. 2–8 p.m., Fri. 9–12 noon, Sat. 10–4 p.m. In past years, there have been thousands of visitors throughout the month with hundreds on Open House Day alone. We look forward to seeing you this holiday season! ❄️



Photos: Frank Gorga



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CHRISTIE ELLINWOOD'S MAPLEWOOD CEMETERY

Lyman Gilmore

Antrim's beautiful Maplewood Cemetery contains two thousand four hundred forty-eight graves. That is a fact you can accept because Sexton-Superintendent Christie Ellinwood counted them the evening before I interviewed him on a warm afternoon in early November. (Antrim's current living population is about 152 more than that figure, at approximately 2600.)

Chris has been working at the cemetery for sixty years, beginning as a helper in 1956 when he was seventeen years old, the year before he graduated from Antrim High School. It is a seasonal job—from mid-April to mid-November, depending on the weather—and at first it was part-time, allowing him to work for lots of local businesses: Ross Roberts, E. H. Edwards and Sons, Gates Inc. in Peterborough, Sylvania, and Arcomm Communications, a telecommunications and computer company in Hillsborough. He ran the woodworking shop at Country Craftsman in Antrim and Hillsborough for twelve years, and served three years in the Army.

Not surprisingly, he knows Maplewood Cemetery intimately, including its history. Citing Cochrane's 1880 *History of Antrim, New Hampshire*, Chris described its founding. One day in 1861 leading citizen Josiah Christie and his son were riding their buggy past a sheep pasture north of Antrim Village, and they thought it might make a good cemetery. "The two got out and looked it over; then went up and consulted with Mark and Levi Woodbury," who bought the land and "fitted it up nearly in its present (1880) shape, and sold the lots for remuneration." The cemetery opened in 1862, and ironically J. W. Christie was the second person buried there. (The first was Charles McKean.) Presumably J. W. Christie did not share his grandmother's unfortunate experience, a "noble and devoted Christian . . . who weighed upwards of three hundred and fifty pounds, and that when she died the narrow doors of her house had to be widened to make a passage for her coffin." (Cochrane, p. 414)

Josiah Christie's grandmother's death reaches down the generations to our Christie Ellinwood's beloved grandmother, Jennie Newhall, who lived on the corner of Elm Street and Wallace Street, around the corner from the Ellinwood family on North Main Street. Chris remembers that when he was a boy his grandmother had boarding with her Harlan Swett, who was working at the cemetery, having retired as caretaker of the Flint Farm in North Branch. Chris and Harlan would walk down the hill to the cemetery to mow, rake, trim trees, and maintain the graves that had sunk into the ground. His grandmother told Chris that if she died when the ground is frozen, she did not want to be put into "storage" until spring. So when she did die thirty-five years ago at ninety-nine in late November with the cemetery closed for the year and snow on the ground, he and his son opened the chain-gate and dug her grave by hand through the frozen ground.

Today they have refrigerated buildings for sheltering bodies until the earth defrosts, but in the 19th century cemeteries had "tombs" such as the one on the "Center Road" at Maplewood. This center road marks the first line of graves laid out in 1861, and Chris is puzzled at the way the early cemetery committee arranged the fifty gravesites, in each row starting at what is now Route 202 and running eastward over the hill and down to the small and lovely spring-fed pond. That is, they plotted the grave rows vertically, from west to east, rather than horizontally from south to north as later administrations have done.

The oldest section of the cemetery, the "Christie Annex," was laid out at the south entrance closest to the town center, and along the "Center Road," which goes due east from the gate, the founders planted a long row of maple trees that "are now, in their maturity, a glorious and breath-taking sight in September." (Parades, p. 211)

The "Goodell Annex," the second oldest section lying north of the Christie Annex, is named for David H. Goodell, Antrim resident, inventor of the famous "lightening apple parer," founder of the Goodell Company in 1875, and Governor of New Hampshire in 1888.

I asked Chris about the recent Green or Natural Burial movement attracting interest among those around the country who, for environmental, aesthetic, and financial reasons, oppose regular burials and cremations. They hark back to earlier times when the dead body was put in a biodegradable cotton shroud or pine box and simply placed in the ground.

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Photo: Lyman Gilmore

I have on my shelf the *Parish Psalms* that belonged to Amos Parmenter, one of the founders of the handsome brick meetinghouse in Antrim Center, then the only church in town. His fat, leather-bound book, published in 1848, contains over 1000 hymns, many of them Psalms, that the Presbyterians sang under the direction of Bess Felker's grandfather.

There are words for the songs, but no music notes, in the book. Melodies were taught to the congregation by the choir. The Presbyterians sang about Jesus, about God, about the Gospels, and, of course, about Sinners and Backsliders. They sang songs for the New Year and for Thanksgiving. But no songs for Christmas.

Antrim's founders were not only Protestants, they were from Puritan stock. They brought with them a history of protest against the church trappings and celebrations of their British ancestors. Our Puritan forefathers and foremothers knew about Christmas, they just wanted nothing at all to do with it.

Unless it fell on a Sunday, December 25 was an ordinary workday. Amos Parmenter's son rolled snow with his oxen for 22 hours that day in 1860. I'm told that Christmas was not celebrated widely in this country until after the Civil War.

I don't know when Christmas festivities began to take shape in Antrim. But by the late 19th century, they were in full swing. My mother, born in 1895, remembered Christmas parties in her Methodist Church on Main Street (between the high school and the Baptist Church). She was only four when she sang "Silent Night" as a solo at one of those celebrations.

By the time I came along, Christmas concerts were a well-established custom. The Presbyterian and Baptist choirs joined to give the familiar anthems full treatment. Many a wintry night I rode with my sister and mother to rehearsals in preparation for the much-anticipated event, which, incidentally, did not always end on a high note.

Once when we were returning from our concert in freezing rain the headlights reflected off someone stumbling along the roadside. My mother, fearful that if she stopped the car to check on the person she wouldn't be able to make

it up Abbot's Hill, drove by while my sister and I protested that we should do something.

We reached home safely. My father, hearing about the incident, suspected right away who the shadowy figure was. He turned the car around and he and I went back and picked up Waldo Brown who by that time had collapsed on the side of the road. We managed to get him into the car and drive him home to sober up from his own Christmas preparation. Good deeds are always in season.

Many years later, my sister composed a song, "A Real New England Christmas." She worked familiar winter scenes—snow-topped roofs, snowball fights, sliding parties in the crystal nights—into a very singable melody. One line goes this way: "Singers are caroling in the street, hoping they'll get lots of treats of popcorn and cocoa, too."

I suppose Deacon Parmenter would have taken a switch to any girl, great-great-great-granddaughter or not, who would not only acknowledge Christmas but would dare to sing about it in the streets!

So while I might wish department stores would confine seasonal noels to perhaps a week or so before the holiday, their two-months-early blaring music is way, way better than no Christmas songs at all. ❄

GRAND MONADNOCK YOUTH CHOIRS

Maria Belva

The Grand Monadnock Youth Choirs, under the direction of Maria Belva and Esther Rhoades, will present their 20th Annual Holiday Concert on December 3 at Keene State College Redfern Arts Center at 6:30 p.m., and on December 4 at the Peterborough Unitarian Universalist Church, 25 Main St. at 3:00 p.m. Tickets are on sale at Toadstool Bookshops in Peterborough and Keene and at the door. One hundred youth voices in five different choirs will be performing songs to uplift and delight!

Visit our website: www.grandmonadnockyouthchoirs.org for more information about the choirs. ❄



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ANTRIM POLICE ASSOCIATION FATHER DAUGHTER DANCE

Sergeant Brian Lord, APA President

The Antrim Police Association held its 8th annual Father Daughter Dance on October 22 with great success. This event is the biggest fundraiser of the year for the association. The money raised from this event helps the association give back to the community through multiple avenues such as donating food baskets and grocery gift cards to the local food pantry, donating Christmas gifts to families in the community, hosting community suppers, providing helmets to youth bicycle riders, sponsoring local athletes and booster clubs, supporting community residents in times of need and more.

A large part of our success with this event is due to the generous donations from local businesses and community members who provide product services, goods, time, and money which are used as raffle and door prizes.

Each year we have a different theme, and this year's was Boots and Bling, which was well received by everyone who attended. We saw a lot of beautiful cowgirls in the "Dance Hall" with their fathers and all seemed to be enjoying the country music provided by Jocelynn Drew.

Photographs are provided by the Antrim Police Association and taken by Tammy Lester and her assistant Breanna Lester. The studio is set up in the Antrim Recreation office and this year the hay bales and a wagon wheel gave it a real country feel.

At the "Watering Hole" food and drinks were provided by volunteers who bake or purchase goodies for all to snack on. This year there were cowgirl boot cookies, fruit and veggies

with cowgirl ranch dip, cheese and crackers, more cookies, and Twizzlers. This station is run by Diane Chauncey and Ben Pratt, who volunteer enthusiastically every year.

Lisa Cahill provided countless hours of her time in creating the design and props for the dance. She designed and put together the goodie boxes that the girls took with them at the end of the dance. She also made all of the signs and we received many compliments on them. There was even a horse at the dance.

The raffle prizes were displayed at the "Trading Post." All of the prizes were provided by local businesses and community members who give generously every year, which helps to make this event so successful.

As attendees entered they made a stop at the "Bank," paid for their ticket, grabbed a complimentary glow bracelet, a cowgirl hat accented with a silver and pink tiara, and a pink bandana. Once in the dance hall the cowgirls found hula hoops and a bubble machine, which seemed to be a big hit, and a lot of room to dance.

The Antrim Police Association would like to thank all of the businesses who donated their goods and services to this event and to all of the volunteers who eagerly give their time, effort, and talent every year without hesitation. We would also like to say thank you to the entire community who attend the dance every year. Without all of you this event would not take place. Thank you for supporting your community and the Antrim Police Association. We will see all of you next year. ✨

BOY SCOUT TROOP 2

Brian Beihl, Scoutmaster

Boy Scout Wreath Sale Begins

For more than 20 years, Troop 2 has sold holiday wreaths as its primary fundraiser for the coming year. The sale funds local troop expenses, and pays for a portion of every participating Scout's week of summer camp. Troop 2 Scouts and leaders will be out again this year, but the dates and locations will be slightly different.

Wreaths may be picked up in Antrim on November 25 and December 3 from 9 a.m.–4 p.m. in front of the Police Station and at the Transfer Station. They are available in 10", 14" and 18" frames, and a limited number of 24" frames. Wreaths come with a bow of your choice of color, and the option of decorations for a small extra charge. After December 3, wreaths are available at Hilltop Christmas Tree Farm, on Norway Hill in Hancock. Thanks for your support!

Beal Island, Maine

In October, Troop 2 Scouts ventured to Beal Island, an every-three-year trip to an Appalachian Mountain Club-owned island in Georgetown, ME. Using hand tools, Scouts did trail maintenance on the 65-acre island's trail, and dealt

with a significant 18-hour rainfall, but had a great time. Wildlife sighted included loons and other ducks, a harbor seal, and green, fiddler and hermit crabs. The best meal of the weekend was the lobster bake, which included corn, potatoes, crab, mussels, and lobster that was purchased from a lobsterman pulling traps right near the island. The lobsters were off-loaded into a canoe and paddled back to the island.

Upcoming Events

Troop 2 will be staying the Hoge Base cabin in Walpole and camping at the Klondike Derby in Marlborough in February, hosting the Community Supper at the Presbyterian Church on February 16 (see the Antrim Announcements Facebook page in early February for menu), and conducting the spring drive for the Food Pantry in late March.

Joining Troop 2

Troop 2 is always looking for adventurous young men who like the outdoors. Scouts need to be 11 years old and can start in the troop at any time during the year. For more information, contact Scoutmaster Brian Beihl at 588-3014 or scoutmaster@troop2nh.org. ✨

They argue that embalming introduces toxic chemicals to the earth and causes funeral workers to suffer unusually high cancer rates, cremation uses too much fossil fuel, and funeral costs are expensive—in the Antrim area between \$2,000 and \$8,000. (As there are nearly 2.6 million deaths in the US each year, funerals are an \$18 billion business.) One interesting recent death innovation is Capsula Mundi by which the body is placed in “an egg-shaped pod, an ancient and perfect form, made of biodegradable material, where our departed loved ones are placed for burial. Ashes will be held in small Capsulas while bodies will be laid down in a fetal position in larger pods. The pod will then be buried as a seed in the earth. A tree, chosen in life by the deceased, will be planted on top of it and serve as a memorial for the departed and as a legacy for posterity and the future of our planet.” (<http://www.capsulamundi.it/en/>).

Chris said that he hasn't gotten any requests for green burials, but he commented that of late many more families use cremations than traditional burials, six cremations to one burial this year. Some folks have their family member cremated and then hold on to their ashes for months or even years before having them buried at Maplewood.

This conversation got me wondering when and why embalming got started in the United States. We know that the ancient Egyptians mummified their kings beginning in 2600 BC, and the even older South American Chinchorro culture was embalming in 5000 BC. But embalming began here during the Civil War when soldiers from northern states were killed on southern battlefields and their families had no way to transport the bodies back home before they decomposed. So the physician Thomas Holmes began embalming dead Union soldiers, and 40,000 bodies were thus preserved for their families.

I was inspired to know more about Maplewood and Christie Ellinwood when Cinda and I bought a burial lot last fall. It seems a good place to be.

By the time you read this Chris will have closed Maplewood Cemetery this year for Florida where he basks in warm, deathless comfort. ✨



Still Nothing Like It

Rick Davis

We enjoyed so much about Home & Harvest. We were blessed with perfect weather. We started off with a bang with rock & roll and great food at Tenney Farm. The Lions Club put on a great barbecue, the Bursitis Brothers rocked us and Atlas Fireworks put on the best show. Saturday was great, as always. Fifty crafters sold wares, kids climbed the 40-foot climbing wall and navigated through bouncy houses—what a blast! The parade is always special—the homemade floats were great. The Boy Scouts won the Best Float trophy, Festival of Trees was the Most Original, and the Grange won the Most Spirit trophy. I do love tossing the pizza dough as we ride Rick and Diane's float.

Home and Harvest really does give Antrim a chance to show its talent. New and entertaining was Antrim Idol, which was a rousing success on Saturday night. Eight local singing talents squared off in a bracket-style karaoke contest. There was a wide variety of ages and song styles. The audience was large and supportive. After much deliberation, our judges awarded the basket of local gift cards and trophy to Scott DeLano of Peterborough as this year's winner. After a successful inaugural year, expect to see Antrim Idol over Home & Harvest weekend again.

I am already planning next year's Home & Harvest with the help of our great committee who, as always, make it happen. If you have any ideas, I'm all ears. Next year's date is September 15–16, 2017. ✨

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ANTRIM RECREATION

Celeste Lunetta, Director

The staff at Antrim Recreation wishes everyone a very happy holiday season. This article includes an overview of some upcoming projects and programs. If you ever need more information, or wish to make recommendations for programming or facilities, please give us a call at 588-3121 (leave a message if we don't answer!) or email Celeste Lunetta at antrimrecre@tds.net.

This fall Sean Burwen repaired and stained the two leaning benches in Memorial Park as a community service requirement to achieve the rank of Life Scout. Volunteers also planted hundreds of daffodil and tulip bulbs among the roses, blueberry bushes and perennials planted around the bandstand this summer. We're hoping they'll add some cheer when they bloom in the spring.

Here are some of our new and ongoing programs. For more information, and to register, call the Recreation Department, or find the program flyers at the town website, antrimnh.org.

Free Movies at Antrim Town Hall: Fridays, Dec. 16, Jan. 20 and Feb. 17. Show times are 4 p.m., 5:45 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Check online at antrimnh.org for what movies we are showing.

After School Dance Party for kids and their families, grades K-4: Fridays, Dec. 2, Jan. 6 and Feb. 3, 3:30-4:30, \$5.00 per family.

New! Ice Skating Under the lights at Shea Field! Saturdays, Jan. 21 and 28, Feb. 4, 18 and 25, 4-8 p.m. Weather dependent! Watch for news on antrimnh.org.

Roller Skating at Antrim Town Gym: Saturdays, Dec. 10, Jan. 14 and Feb. 11, 6-9 p.m. Donation and skate rentals.

Pickleball at Antrim Town Gym: Saturdays, 3:30-5:00; for adults, this is a fast-growing sport that is akin to racquetball, tennis and badminton! Call us at 588-3121 if you plan to attend. This is an ongoing program, but sometimes there are not enough players.

New! Sports Mixer for boys in 3rd-6th grade, coached by J.T. Clough: Wednesdays, Jan. 18-Feb. 16, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Cost is \$30 per athlete. We will cover basketball, baseball and lacrosse.

Jump Rope Club: Wednesdays, February 8, 15 and 22, 3:30-4:30; boys and girls, grades 2-4, \$5 per child.

Girls Lacrosse Clinics: Grades 1-4: Wednesdays, February 15 and 22, March 8 and 15, 4:30-5:20. Free.

Boys Lacrosse Clinics with Nick Duffy and Conval Lacrosse Players! Grades 3-6: Saturdays, Dec. 17, Jan. 7 and 21, 7:00-8:30 p.m. Free program. Call ahead to preregister.

Tumbling: This is an ongoing program that runs in four-week sessions, Sundays at the Town Gym, 4:30-6 p.m. For

children in Kindergarten and older. The cost is \$30 per session. The winter sessions are Jan. 8-29 and Feb. 5-26.

Beginning Dance: With Cari Gillespie; Thursdays 3:45 and 4:45 at Antrim Town Hall. Cari grew up dancing locally with the Peterborough Dance Academy, and then at Plymouth State College. She is a para-educator and gymnastics coach at GBS. Cost is \$42 for six week sessions. The next session is Jan. 12-Feb. 16. Classes start at 3:40 for kids in 2nd through 4th grade, and at 4:45 for kids ages 4-1st grade.

Softball Pitchers Clinic with Rick Davis: Saturdays, Feb. 4-Mar. 25: 8:30-9:30 a.m. Free. For softball players ages 9 through 14.

Our upcoming spring programs will include a hiking group, an afterschool history and geology quest for kids in grades 2-5, a Lego program and some bus trips! Have a safe and wonderful winter. ❄️

ECLECTIC BOOK CLUB

Sponsored by the Antrim Area Senior Center

This is the schedule of upcoming book discussions to be held at the First Presbyterian Church library, 73 Main Street, Antrim. Meetings will take place on the following Thursdays between 11:00 a.m. and noon. Free copies of the books will be available at Antrim's Tuttle Library through the cooperation of Melissa Lawless. For further information, please contact Steve Ullman at sullman@brockport.edu or 588-2005.

2016

December 15, Joseph Heller, *Catch 22*

2017

April 20, Robert Putnam, *American Grace*

May 18, Norman Mailer, *The Naked and the Dead*

June 15, W. Somerset Maugham, *Of Human Bondage*

July 20, Harper Lee, *Go Tell a Watchman* ❄️


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ATTICUS

Sheila Nichols

There is nothing like the feeling of falling in love with a puppy. Look into those eyes and your heart smiles. Neither is there a word that adequately encompasses the depth of grief with the passing of one's dog.

Some folks are cat people and others dog people. I am a dog person. There have only been a handful of years in my life during which I have not had a dog. I've had many cats but somehow the connection I feel with my dogs is different.

I have rescued and purchased dogs from breeders. Never have I had a dog that has questioned my pedigree. They've just offered undying, unconditional and unending love.

This story began four years ago. Bill and I were in Concord running errands. I elected to wait in the car while he ran into one shop. Across the parking lot I saw a car with a few people standing and talking. There were small something-or-others on the ground. When Bill got back into the car I pointed out the scene and asked to drive over to see what the something-or-others might be.

Parked in front of a pet shop was a woman selling puppies out of the back of her car. Someone was looking at the tiny puppies trying to decide which one she wanted. I know what you are thinking—NEVER should you EVER buy an animal out of the back of a car. But remember the beginning of this story and the heart smiling part?

I saw a little pup, weighing about two pounds. He looked at me and, well what was I to do? I asked if I could carry the pup over to show Bill, who was sitting in the car knowing full well his Achilles' heel when it comes to puppies. This little Yorkie pup was curled up in my hands. Bill opened his window and I passed the pup in to him.

Sheila: "Isn't he adorable? Isn't he soft? What do you think about him?"

Bill: "I think you are a big girl."

Well, that for sure wasn't a "No"!

No surprise to anyone reading this—I bought the puppy. He rode home sleeping in Bill's Clemson baseball cap. We tossed around names on the drive home. Deciding on a proper name for such a tiny guy was tough until we came up with

Thor, God of Thunder. Perfect! Thor was assimilated into our menagerie in short order, no pun intended.



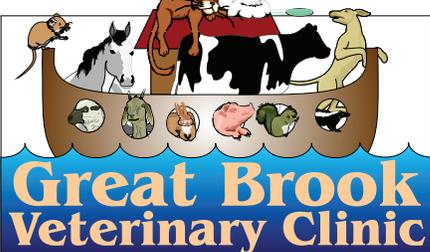
Courtesy photo

Yorkies are great because they are always puppy-sized but grow out of puppy behaviors. Thor grew into his name. He loved running around the farm and playing with our Lab, Fia, and Rat Terrier, Lincoln, never once finding his small size a hindrance.

Early one evening about a year later my father-in-law, Marty, and I were sitting on the deck waiting for Bill to come home from work. Just before Bill pulled into the yard Thor took off toward the road. He was only seven pounds and Bill simply didn't see him. Bill was getting out of his car not realizing what had happened. I ran down to the road and found Thor. My legs buckled and I crumbled. We wrapped him in a blanket and Bill dug a grave through tears. How quickly life changes in a moment. He was only with us a year but had so endeared himself to us that the emptiness he left was immeasurable.

Thor's grave is next to the stone wall where he and the other dogs spent countless hours chasing chipmunks. I have created a garden for him with shrubs from my son Mark and wild flowers from the fields where he spent so many hours running.

The grief was holding me tight. I told Bill that I wanted to find homes for all our animals, that I couldn't bear to have anything happen to any of them. I just wanted them all



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Courtesy photo

gone. Mark said, “Mom you love your animals. Just give it some time.” My aunt Olga called and told me that I needed a puppy right away. Bill’s words were priceless and provided the tipping point, “As much as Thor’s barking annoyed me the silence in his absence is deafening. Let’s get a puppy. You have lots of love to give to a new pup.”

So began the search for a new puppy. I knew I wanted another Yorkie. I called all the local breeders and vets only to come up empty. Aunt Olga suggested I contact the breeder where she had gotten her Yorkie.

The breeder had puppies! We traveled the two hours to her home and found the Utopia of breeders. She has raised only Yorkies for over 25 years. The parents of her litters are on site for you to meet. Her house has a sun porch with several rocking chairs to be used by potential buyers. A far cry from the back of a car! She brought out one puppy at time for us to rock, cuddle and make the impossible choice of which one to buy.

The third pup climbed up my chest, licked my face and adopted me. We would be asked to return three more times before taking home our new family member so that he could get used to us. When I went to pick him up the breeder had a take-away bag full of food, a leash, harness and a transition stuffed animal. She said she keeps the stuffed animals in the pen with the litter so when a pup leaves he can be comforted with the scent of his litter mates.

Nameless for a few days, we finally chose Atticus Hayden Nichols. Atticus from *To Kill a Mockingbird*, in hopes he would be equally as wise. Hayden is an English name meaning hay valley to symbolize our pastures.

My son Michael installed a fence to keep our dogs safe from the road.

Atticus will be 3 years old on June 10, 2017. He weighs in at a whopping 4.5 pounds. But the way he fills my heart is beyond measure. ❁

BRAIN TEASERS ABOUT ANTRIM SCHOOLS

Eric Tenney

1. When was the original Antrim High School built?
2. What was the original name of that school?
3. Why was that name changed to Antrim High School?
4. Who was the primary sponsor of building the Antrim High School?
5. How much money was appropriated to build the school?
6. When was the original Antrim Elementary School (East wing of GBS) built?
7. How much money was appropriated to build this school?
8. When was the new Antrim High School (present AES) built?
9. When did Antrim join ConVal?
10. Why were the Antrim Gym and AES leased to ConVal?



Photo: Frank Gorga

Check your answers on page 16 of this issue. ❁

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PROJECT LINUS

Linda Bryer

The Project Linus Southwest NH Chapter of the Monadnock Region is looking for blanket donations! Project Linus was named after the security blanket-toting character from the *Peanuts* comic strip. Nearly 400 chapters of Project Linus exist with more than 6 million blankets delivered worldwide.

Project Linus is a non-profit organization with a two-fold mission. First, the organization provides love and a sense of security, warmth, and comfort to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need through the gift of new, handmade blankets and afghans, which are lovingly created by volunteers called “blanketeers.” Second, Project Linus provides a rewarding and fun service opportunity for individuals and groups in local communities.

You can become a “blanketeer” by making a blanket and donating it to our chapter of Project Linus. Your blanket will be given to a deserving child to keep permanently. We welcome all styles of blankets made in child-friendly colors and prints. Crocheted, knitted, quilted (100% cotton or flannel), fleece...you don't have to be an expert! Blankets must be *new, handmade* and *washable*. Elaborate or simple, they are all beautiful to a child. Fabric blankets can be quilted by hand or machine or tied. If you are tying the blanket make sure the ends are trimmed to 1" and the knots are secure. Please do not add any embellishments to the blankets such as buttons that could be swallowed by a child. If you are using a no-sew fleece pattern, be sure to trim off both selvages first.

We donate to children from infants to teens, so any size is appropriate and welcome. A few helpful guidelines are:

Baby blankets: One yard of fabric (36" x 36" or 36" x 42") makes an acceptable baby-sized blanket.

Toddler through Pre-teen: An average-sized blanket is 40" x 60". The perfect size for a blanket is 1-2/3 yards of a 40" or 42" wide fabric.

Teens: In order for a blanket to be comfortable for a teenager, it needs to be at least two yards in length. Since polar fleece is 50" wide, a 2-yard piece makes a nice blanket for a

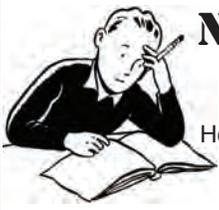
teenager. Please trim selvages off both sides of polar fleece when you start.

Completed blankets can be dropped off at Edmunds ACE Hardware in Antrim. If you have any questions please contact chapter coordinator Robyn Manley (603-588-2427) or assistant coordinators Linda Bryer (603-588-2679) or Joni Sue MacGarvey (603-878-6050). The Project Linus Southwest NH Chapter of the Monadnock Region meets every  fourth Tuesday of the month 6:30–9:30 p.m. at the Bennington Congregational Church and all are welcome to attend. For more information about Project Linus please visit www.projectlinus.org or ‘like’ Project Linus Southwest NH Chapter on Facebook. ✨

CONVAL SCHOOL BOARD

Crista Salamy

With the many changes our district has been through since the beginning of the year, we are pleased with the direction and leadership we have. Our new superintendent and assistant superintendent dove right in, head first. Each committee is working towards completing pieces of our five-year strategic plan (which is available to read on our school district website). We met the first week of November to work on our budget for the upcoming school year. While we always have pieces that are not negotiable, we are mindful of everyone in our district, from our taxpayers to staff and most of all the students. We finally worked out an agreement with the town of Antrim regarding Shea Field, which is wonderful news and much-needed. Antrim is such a supportive town to our district. Rich and I appreciate it and are grateful to represent our town. As always, any questions, please free to contact Rich Cahoon or myself. Everyone have a safe and wonderful holiday season and may 2017 bring much happiness to you and your families. ✨



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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR NEW ANTRIM INITIATIVES

Kristen Vance and Michael Rondeau
Antrim 2020 Steering Committee Co-Chairs

Six new citizen-led town initiatives are officially underway as of November 9, when 25 Antrim residents met at the First Presbyterian Church to begin planning. The initiatives and coordinators are:

- Creation of an Economic Development board—
John Robertson jrobertson@mcttelecom.com
- Expanding town library programs and use—Kim Proctor
kim.proctor@comcast.net
- Assessment of business and community gathering spaces—Janet McEwen janet@themollers.com
- Developing business incubator and co-working space—
Rich Cahoon rcahoon@conval.edu
- Nature trail upkeep and signage—Jeremy DeLisle
elmwoodfarms1@gmail.com and
Neal Pattison nealpattison@gmail.com
- A central town events sign—Sue Conklin
sueconklinantrim@gmail.com

These projects were selected at the end of a Community Profile event on October 21 and 22 organized by the Antrim 2020 citizen steering committee with guidance from UNH Cooperative Extension, which developed the profile process. According to Sharon Cowen at the Extension, “Often citizens may not feel they have a voice in what happens in their community. The Community Profile process allows town residents a chance to engage and offer input into the future of their town.”

Over the two days, 84 residents discussed the components of a vital community and how Antrim measures up, including the areas where our town is strong and those where we have challenges. The six projects above were selected to address the priority areas where residents saw an opportunity for making meaningful improvements to the quality of life in Antrim.

At the November 9 meeting, each group began developing action plans and determined the first steps they will take on their initiative. All groups are seeking additional volunteers, and Antrim residents and business owners who are interested in any of the initiatives are invited to get in touch with the contact person to learn more. The Antrim 2020 website—Antrim2020.com—will remain active as the central location for reporting progress on the initiatives. Residents who don’t use email or the internet are invited to call Michael Rondeau at

588-6885 to get in touch with project coordinators.

The Antrim 2020 Community Profile was a success thanks to the residents who participated in the two-day event. The profile was made possible by the following: Great Brook School, which provided meeting space, audio/visual equipment, and event support; the Antrim-Bennington Lions Club, which donated and served breakfast; Rick and Diane’s Restaurant, which gave us a great deal on lunch; Saxy Chef, which donated delicious pies; T-Bird which gave us ice; Melissa Preble and the Great Brook School students who provided children’s activities; Antrim Elementary School students, who created beautiful artwork representing what they love about our town; the many community volunteers and UNH folks who facilitated and scribed for the small group discussions; the Planning Board and Town of Antrim, who initiated the process and helped with expenses and planning; UNH Cooperative Extension, which guided the process; and the Antrim 2020 Steering Committee, who worked for nine months to plan the event and engage citizens in the process: Jeanne Cahoon, Amy DeLisle, Frank Gorga, Bailey Kirkpatrick, Janet McEwen, Shelley Nelkens, Neal Pattison, Nicole Pattison, Kim Proctor, John Robertson, Carole Storro, Steve Ullman and Jack Vance.

UNH Cooperative Extension will provide the Antrim Planning Board with a report on the profile by early December, which will include full details describing the two-day process and all comments that were made by participants. ✨



Photo: Frank Gorga

András has been working in stone for thirty-five years and is a master mason. He has built a wide variety of masonry projects, from dry stone walls to Rumford-style fireplaces to soapstone ovens for heating homes. He also has a passion for baking ovens. András took a workshop several years ago taught by Albie Barden of Maine Wood Heat

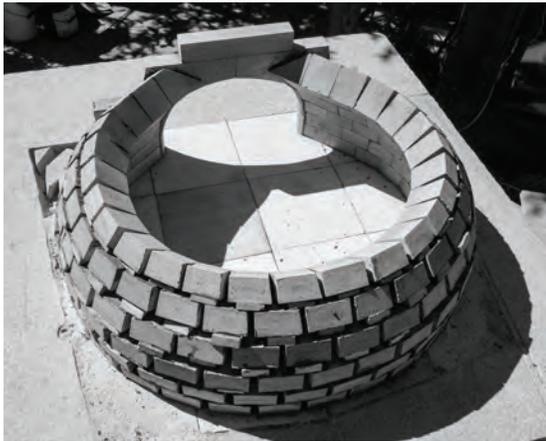


Photo: András Lazar

Company to better acquaint himself with the Finnish style of masonry heater that Maine Wood Heat was building and manufacturing inner parts for. This style of heater is better and more efficient than the first design that was introduced to the masonry heater builders' community. The heater András and Albie built in Maine was faced with brick. When András built his own heater he did extensive research to design his version with soapstone instead of brick. He faced his interior heater with soapstone and built a separate baking oven next to it to serve the dual purpose of heating his home and baking. András and Karen use their oven to cook everything from bread to roasts to pizzas.

When Nancy commissioned András to take on this project, he was able to draw from his experience at the workshop and his own extensive research on soapstone-faced masonry bread ovens, as well as his experience of building his own oven. András says he was excited to take on this project because he knew he could not only create this oven for Nancy but also continue to perfect his

own take on this old world design.

The earliest of these ovens, which were built out of clay, have not survived. One of the first references to them comes from Vitruvius, a first-century B.C. Roman historian, who recorded the shapes and proportions of the ovens he observed during his lifetime. The overall design of the oven has not changed since Vitruvius' time because fire still burns the same way.

Ovens are made out of several types of masonry. Each type has its uses in building a wood-fired bread oven. Some materials are used for strength, others for insulation or conduction and others for aesthetics. A baking oven interior firebrick wall requires a material which is not so dense as to absorb and release heat too fast, giving only a short hot bak-

ing cycle, and not so porous as to be too insulating, requiring a long burn cycle inadequate for baking. Maine Wood Heat partners with a French firm that creates oven core kits fabricated out of "Terre Blanche" (white earth) firebricks made at an historic factory site next to the Rhone River in southeastern France. Terre Blanche clay is considered the best material for these firebricks because its natural balance of density and porosity allows it to retain heat, making longer cooking times possible.

Terre Blanche has been mined in southeastern France since the Roman Empire. It consists of two different materials—feldspar and kaolin clay—eroded from a granite deposit when the waters of the Mediterranean Sea rose in ancient times. These materials are processed to separate larger particles of feldspar from smaller particles, which are mixed back with the kaolin clay to exacting measurements

and formed into firebricks.

The sizes of the interior and exterior openings of the oven are also vital to making a wood-heated stove work at its maximum level. Because the heat is generated by a wood fire it is necessary to have the proper draft of air for the fire—with too much draft, the fire burns hot and dies out; with too little draft, the fire does not burn consistently. The amount of draft is based on the ratio of the height of the interior brick oven to the height of its opening. András designed Nancy's oven to maximize the best possible draft for cooking.

András built the oven on a raised platform for ease of access to the baking chamber and to insulate the base of the oven. The beehive structure was "super-insulated" for long-term heat retention before being enclosed in bricks. András ordered some of the materials he would specifically need for the interior of the oven from Maine Wood Heat Company. He was able to develop his own take on the original design that would not be as costly as the premade kits, and during the construction he was able to tap into their knowledge to supplement his own research. The oven construction took about five weeks.

To prepare the oven for baking, one lights a fire directly on the hearth of the oven. It takes about five hours to get the oven to full temperature for baking. When the fire first starts burning the inside of the oven is black. As the



Photo: András Lazar

fire reaches its maximum heat all the soot is burned off and the fire is considered to have a “clean” burn. Once the clean burn stage has been reached the ashes are removed, the oven floor is wiped down with a damp rag and the bread is placed directly on the oven floor to bake. Enough heat is generated by this indirect method to bake two batches of bread. “Carmella” can bake six loaves at a time.

When using the direct heat method, the fire is pushed to the back of the oven and the floor of the oven is brushed down. This small fire keeps the internal temperature high, which cooks foods like the toppings of pizza before the hearth can burn the crust. When roasting and baking, wood is added as needed to maintain the correct temperature. It only takes an hour or hour-and-a-half to get the oven up to temperature when using direct heat.

Now that Carmella has been completed, Nancy and Terry are enjoying her and are excited to begin perfecting their baking techniques this winter. I’m looking forward to testing a nice slice of bread to make sure they’re on the right track :) ❁

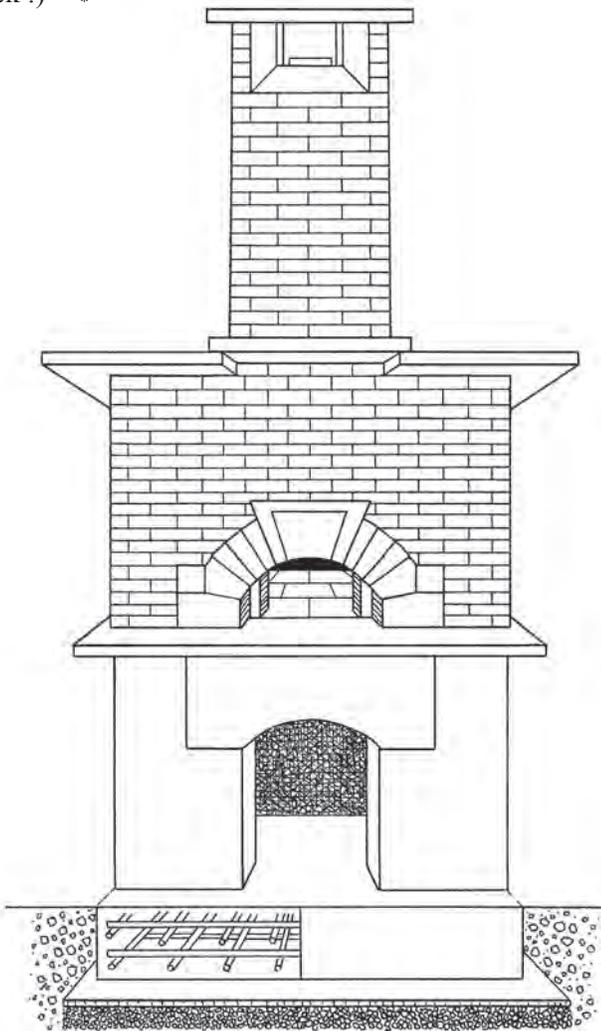


Illustration by Virginia Dickinson

DRIVERS NEEDED CVTC

Just a few hours of your time can make a big difference in a person’s life. The Community Volunteer Transportation Company, better known as CVTC, is looking for more people to become part of our volunteer driver team, especially in the towns of Keene, Swanzey, Troy, Winchester and Hinsdale. Do you have time on your hands?

Following the transfer of the American Red Cross medical transportation program, the supply of volunteer drivers needs to increase to meet the demand for rides to doctor’s appointments, social services, grocery shopping, banking, and/or visits to the pharmacy. Volunteers choose exactly when and where they want to drive. Drivers donate their time and may elect to be reimbursed for mileage.

More drivers will help make this “big difference”! Our volunteers contribute to the health, wellness, dignity and independence for all we serve. Please join us. It’s easy and most rewarding. Give CVTC a call today at: 1-877-428-2882, ext. 5, and get more information from Tracy, our Transportation Coordinator.

CVTC provides rides for individuals without access to transportation because of age, ability, income, and/or life circumstance. We are a MUW Partner Agency. ❁

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Visit: www.cvtc-nh.org

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ANTRIM-BENNINGTON LIONS CLUB

Steve Ullman, Vice-President

Eye Screening. Under the leadership of technology whiz John Conklin, the A-B Lions this fall screened 387 children at five elementary schools and the Grapevine. Encountering students who have solved their vision problems as a result of our past intervention is enormously satisfying to all of us.

Antrim 2020. On October 21 and 22, many members of the A-B Lions participated in Antrim 2020, an opportunity for all Antrim residents to take stock of where our town is today and where it should go in the future. To energize participants Saturday morning, the A-B Lions provided a continental breakfast. On November 9 many of us met at the Presbyterian Church to develop plans to implement the Antrim 2020 ventures.

New Lion Cheryl Riley. This year Lions Club International is celebrating its 100th Anniversary. Cheryl Riley, the A-B Lions' newest member, was inducted by International President Bob Corlew when he visited Manchester to celebrate the Lions' centennial.

Discussion Programs. On October 17th A-B Lions hosted Michael Pon, Managing Editor of *The Villager* newspaper, who sketched out the challenges and satisfactions of local news reporting.

On November 15th, the Lions heard from Frank Gorga, Joan Gorga, and Lynne Rosansky, individuals who had spent their careers in higher education and scientific research. We learned about the realities of academic life from these grizzled veterans.

Candidates Nights. Lions Bob Edwards, Joan Gorga, and Steve Ullman hosted four "Candidates Nights" featuring candidates for the State House, State Senate, and Executive Council. These illuminating sessions reminded us about how privileged we Granite Staters are to be so close to our elected officials.

Nobel Peace Prize. On the basis of its humanitarian services, Lions Club International was nominated for the 2016 Nobel Peace Prize.

Christmas Tree Sale. The AB Lions will once again be sponsoring a Christmas tree sale at Tenney Farm starting the weekend after Thanksgiving. All proceeds will go to Operation Santa, a New Hampshire program to make sure that needy kids all receive holiday gifts. Rumor has it that Santa (who strangely bears more than a passing resemblance to Rick Wood) will be showing up on one of the Saturdays.

Dick and Robin Loveland. At a recent potluck dinner (yes, we Lions are accomplished eaters), the A-B Lions honored Robin and Richard Loveland for their years of service to the club and the community. Both have been indispensable in modernizing and expanding our eye screening ventures.

Lions on Facebook. Don't forget to follow the A-B Lions on Facebook. For a keyword search use the phrase Antrim Bennington Lions. ❄

Answers to Brain Teasers on page 11

- 1-5. A group headed by David Goodell saw the need for a change in the schools in Antrim. With the growth of industrial businesses on Great Brook in Clinton and South Antrim Villages the population had grown in these areas. In 1883 this group had a warrant article at Town Meeting for the establishment of a private school called Antrim Academy funded by a donation of \$10,000 from a person in Boston. Unfortunately, it was learned that taxpayer dollars could not be used to operate a private school. In 1884 the warrant article was changed to reflect the town paying and building the school with the same financial donation at what is now 89 Main Street. From that time on it was called Antrim High School. At the same time all the old school districts were abolished and consolidated, with schools also in North Branch and Antrim Center. Over the next 50 years the high school was enlarged and all the other schools were closed.
6. After World War II the old high school was crowded, so in 1947 it was decided to build an elementary school.
7. The cost of the original AES was \$100,000.
8. 1960
9. 1966
10. They had to be leased because the land was a gift to the town with restrictions. It could not be sold.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

DECEMBER

- Festival of Trees* • Tuttle Library • entire month of December during open hours
- 3 *Boy Scouts Troop 2 Wreath Sale* • Antrim Police Station and Recycling Transfer Station • 9–4:00 p.m.
- 3 *Grand Monadnock Youth Choirs Concert* • Redfern Arts Center, Keene State College • 6:30 p.m.
- 4 *Grand Monadnock Youth Choirs Concert* • Peterborough Universalist Church • 3:00 p.m.
- 10 *Festival of Trees “A Winter’s Evening” program* • Tuttle Library • 6–8:30 p.m.
- 11 *Children’s Chirstmas Pageant* • Antrim Baptist Church • 10:30 a.m.
- 14 *Festival of Trees “Winter Songs and Stories” program* • Tuttle Library • 6–8:30 p.m.
- 15 *Eclectic Book Club* • First Presbyterian Church • 11:00 a.m.
- 15 *FREE Community Supper* • First Presbyterian Church • 5:30 p.m.
- 24 *Candlelight Christmas Eve Service* • Antrim Baptist Church • 7:00 p.m.
- 24 *Christmas Eve Service* • First Presbyterian Church • 7:00 p.m.

JANUARY

- 1 *Combined Worship Service* with First Presbyterian Church • at Antrim Baptist Church • 10:30 a.m.
- 18 *Antrim Grange program* • 7:00 p.m.
- 19 *FREE Community Supper* • First Presbyterian Church • 5:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY

- 2 *The Vine Story Hour “All for Love”* • Avenue A Teen + Community Center • 7:00 p.m.
- 11 *Drop-In Valentine Card Making* • Tuttle Library • 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
- 15 *Antrim Grange program* • 7:00 p.m.
- 16 *FREE Community Supper* • First Presbyterian Church • 5:30 p.m.
- 22 *Meet the Candidates* • sponsored by the Antrim Grange • at Antrim Town Hall • 7:00 p.m.
- 24 *Drop-In Craft and Story Time* • Tuttle Library • 9:00 a.m.–12:00 noon



Wreath Sale
Boy Scout Troop 2
Dec. 3 • 9–4 p.m.
at Antrim Police Station &
Antrim Recycling Station

Lions Club Christmas Tree Sale

Nov 26 until sold out
Weekends at Tenney Farm Stand



News Flash: The Asiago Rosemary focaccia Nancy sent home with us didn't make it home. That may say something about how delicious it was!

— Editor



Photo: Frank Gorga

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWS

Sharon Dowling, Music Director

Greetings! The seasons are changing, yet again. November finishes the season of Pentecost and begins the season of Advent! In preparation for the Christmas Season, the four Sundays in Advent give us time to prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of the Christ Child. Marking each week with the lighting of the Advent Wreath provides a visual countdown. Our Christmas tree is decorated in white and gold symbols of Jesus, the Trinity and our faith. The order of service changes a bit, as does the music—a space of quiet as we also handle the outside “preparations” for Christmas our society demands of us. On December 4th and 11th we will hold regular services at 10:30, but on December 18th we incorporate our simple pageant into the order of worship. We usually get the whole Congregation involved, but it is typically casual—not rehearsed or extravagant.

Christmas Eve service of Lessons and Carols will be held at 7:00 p.m. on the 24th, with candlelight and beautiful music. A friendly Fellowship Hour will be held in the Fellowship Hall following the service. All are welcome! This is a great time to see folks returning from away, and catch up on family and town news.

Christmas Day falls on Sunday, but we will not be having service that morning. The following Sunday we will be combining with our friends the Baptists at 10:30 under the leadership of Melissa Lawless. Come one, come all—the first Sunday after Christmas will be at the Baptist Church! Please note, the date is January 1st! So Happy New Year!

The season of Epiphany finds us snug in the Fellowship Hall for a few months. The sanctuary gets too chilly for many of the Congregation, even when we keep it heated. Part of its Victorian charm! We start the Lenten Season on March 1st with Ash Wednesday. A quiet and contemplative evening service will be offered in the Fellowship Hall. More details to come—please check our website for schedules!

If you were able to come and participate in our Laby-

rinth Event in October, you were fortunate. A huge 35' x 35' hand-painted canvas Labyrinth made by folks at South Church in Concord, NH, was borrowed for the evening. It was a moving experience for those who participated. Our New Beginnings Committee is pondering ways to create an outdoor Labyrinth available for the community to use freely. Stay tuned! Also, we are decorating a tree for the Festival of Trees at the Library with a Labyrinth theme—so walk your pathway over there between Thanksgiving and Epiphany and check that out as well!

That's our news for the months to come. Call the office for schedule details and questions. We host Senior Center gatherings most weekday mornings from 9–11:30, and the Sanctuary is also open then for private prayer. We just ask you to check in at the office before going in. And our website is updated regularly. ✨

The Limrik LIMERICK CONTEST

The Limrik invites you to finish the last two lines of the limerick below. Submit your entry to editor@antrimlimrik.org. Winners will be chosen by the *Limrik* staff. First prize will be a \$25.00 gift certificate to Edmunds Hardware.

In December the library's quite festive
It helps keep the natives less restive
The contest is to see

In September's contest, the first three responders who correctly identified the location of the disobedient fowl at the Bass Farm and figured out the correct email address for the response were Ryan Montano, Trish Fletcher and Marshall Gale. Ryan won the \$25.00 gift certificate to Toadstool Bookshops. ✨

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GREGG LAKE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

Joan Gorga

When a request came out this fall for proposals for funding to develop watershed management plans, a group of Antrimites thought it was the perfect opportunity to address some of the concerns we've had over Gregg Lake's water quality. We quickly put together a Pre-proposal and submitted it by the October 21 deadline. Here's the abstract:

Gregg Lake hosts Antrim's popular public swimming beach and boat launch, a community of summer and year-round homes and a thriving youth camp. The tranquil warm water fishery attracts anglers and wildlife, including nesting loons, and nature enthusiasts who paddle the wooded shoreline and marshes. The Gregg Lake watershed contains some of the "Highest Ranked (Wildlife) Habitat" in New Hampshire, (NH Fish and Game). However, elevated phosphorus and chlorophyll-a and low dissolved oxygen levels put Gregg Lake in the "Slightly Bad" category for water quality and threaten the lake's capacity to support wildlife and recreation. Fortunately, Gregg Lake ranks high in "Recovery

Potential" (NH NPS Management Program). The requested funds will support development of a watershed management plan to lower phosphorus and chlorophyll-a levels. Two lake associations and the Town of Antrim already actively support conservation through Lake Host, Weed Watch and VLAP water testing programs. A written plan will guide a coalition, including the Antrim Parks and Recreation Commission, Conservation Commission and Highway Department, lake associations, property owners and recreational lake users, to identify pollution sources and set long-term goals for reducing pollutant loads and restoring Gregg Lake to its highest potential wildlife and recreation uses.

We have been invited to continue with our application; the full proposal will be due on January 13. If you have any interest in joining in the effort to determine what needs to be done to restore Gregg Lake's waters and develop a plan to achieve the restoration, please contact Joan Gorga at 588-2569 or email jgorga2@gorga.org. *



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TUTTLE LIBRARY NEWS

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

Holidays: Library Closed

Fri. Dec. 24 – Mon. Dec. 26 • Christmas Holiday
Mon. Jan. 2 • New Year Holiday
Mon. Jan. 16 • Martin Luther King Day
Mon. Feb. 20 • Presidents Day

Programs

Thursdays 3:30 p.m. • LEGO Club (stop by and build with LEGO)
Fridays 10:00 a.m. • Drop-In Story Time
Saturday, Feb. 11 • Drop-In Valentine Card Making
Friday, Feb. 24 • Drop-In Craft and Story Time

The Festival of Trees continues through December to the beginning of January. Be sure to stop by the library; there are over 100 trees to see and lots of snowflakes. There is much creativity among the people of Antrim. So much fun!

Just a Reminder

The Tuttle Library provides many services to the community; we are not just about books anymore. We have computers to use and free Wi-Fi. We can help you figure out how to use your new smart phones and laptops. With a library card you have access to a vast library of downloadable audio books and magazines as well as our large collection of DVDs, video games and books on CD. We can assist you with genealogy research both online and through our large collection of New Hampshire town histories. For patrons in good standing we can frequently find books from other libraries within the state of New Hampshire through our Inter-Library Loan system. We have a Seed Lending Library for those who want to grow their own vegetables. We have numerous program opportunities for children and adults alike. We also have a modest amount of meeting space for small groups to gather. Please contact our director, Kathy Chisholm if you are interested in scheduling a meeting in the library.

Suggestion Box

It has come to our attention after the initial Antrim 2020 community meetings that one area of interest was enhanced library programs and services. It is in that spirit that we have placed a suggestion box in the circulation lobby. We want to encourage everyone to think about what additional services would bring *you* personally into the library and then drop that suggestion off in our suggestion box.

Blind Date with a Book

In February, join us for a program entitled: “Blind Date with a Book.” In honor of Valentine’s Day, choose a book blindly, based solely on a few limited descriptions written on a blank cover. Experience something new and don’t judge a book by its cover!

Children’s Programs and Winter Recess

During the week of ConVal’s vacation (Feb. 27–March 3), drop in for a fun craft to make and take. As usual, our LEGO Club will be held that Thursday afternoon and there will be a story time on Friday morning. ❄️

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ANTRIM IN RHYME

Chas. H. Chapin

This poem was recently uncovered in the Antrim Historical Society's archives by Sue Conklin. Its author, Charles H. Chapin, was born in 1857 to the second of four wives of Henry D. Chapin. According to the Reverend W. R. Cochrane in his History of the Town of Antrim, New Hampshire, published in 1880, Henry Chapin "has been quite distinguished as a school-teacher in New Jersey and New York, as well as in this town, where he now resides. Is confessedly a man of very scholarly attainments. Recently fitted up the poor-farm house in excellent shape, and occupies the same." Henry Chapin's first wife died shortly after they were married in 1853. In 1854, he married Thirza Davis, originally of Stoddard. Their son, Charles H. Chapin, was born in 1857. Thirza died two years later.

Charles Chapin was listed as a new member of the Presbyterian Church in 1876, and it was reported that the Reverend Charles H. Chapin spoke at Antrim's first Old Home Day on August 30, 1899. He had left Antrim by 1914, but a poem of his was read that year at the dedication of the new gateway and refurbished stone walls at the Meetinghouse Hill Cemetery, whose repairs were initiated by the Molly Aiken Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. We were unable to find the year in which Charles H. Chapin wrote this poem.

— Editor

At first we will describe the town,

About which we are writing;
Because we think it don't deserve
Its customary slighting.

Windsor and Hillsborough adjoin,
And form the northern bounds.
Stoddard and Nelson bound the west,
With all their rocky mounds.

Southward lies Hancock, with her ponds,
And Bennington beside,
While Deering bounds the eastern side,
Made sep'rate by Contoocook's tide.

The town is intersected by
The North Branch River, small
Which flows across from west to east,
With many a noble fall.

There's many a chance for water-power,
But only three are used;
Through all its course in Antrim town
The others lie refused.

But through the southern part there runs
A brook, scarce eight feet wide;
Its source is found in Gregg's big pond
It's mouth – Contoocook's tide.

Although 'tis small, its course is steep
It turns some fifteen water-wheels;
And if 'tis carefully looked up,
Much manufacturing it reveals.

The upper privilege is used
By Rogers, for a saw-mill busy;
A grist-mill, also, by the same,
Whirls at a rate that makes one dizzy.

Next lower stands a saw-mill large,

Owned by one Hildreth, enterprising,
And lower still a saw-mill too,
Which Freeman Holt contends, is rising.

Next, E. Z. Hastings' bedstead-shop,
Which thriveth to its owner's glory,
And next a dam is doubly used
Upon the right by Daniel Story;

And on the left by Johnny Bryer,
The Clinton blacksmith, smart and shrewd,
Lifts his trip-hammer, fans his fire
And turns his grindstone thick and rude.

Dodge Brothers have a bedstead shop,
That stands the very next below;
While lower is the ponderous firm
Of J. H. Abbott and C. O.

Still further on is T. M. Paige
Who runs machinery night and day;
And Simon Story has a small
But useful shop, next in our way;

About this shop we don't know much,
And so we speak, before we stop,
Of the next factory in our route—
'Tis Paige's crib and cradle shop.

Well after this the brooks runs on
Unnoticed for half a mile, –
Till Kelsea's silk mill in the way,
Bid these bold water stop a while.

Next is the apple-parer shop,
By D. H. Goodell owned and run, –
He makes seed-sowers also, and
To tell his work we've scarce begun.

And next below is Temmy Poor,

Whose saw and grist-mill both combined,
Saw all the logs that come along,
And all the corn he gets they grind.

Still on its course the stream doth run,
Wood's Cutlery Comp'ny's wood work
does,
While in one end of that same shop
Luke Hill makes blacksmith's business
buzz.

And next below a saw-mill stands,
Owned by Frank Hunt with mustache
heavy,
While last of all and lower down,
Ed. Thompson on the stream makes levy.

Happy Howlidays
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This tells the manufacturing works,
 And next we will proceed to tell
 About some other things in town;
 Although we cannot very well.

Four villages of some account,
 Are thriving at the present time,
 North Branch, South Antrim, Clinton, too
 And Antrim Centre come to time.

North Branch contains two stores, two
 halls
 A tannery, blacksmith-shop and mill
 While Antrim Centre has a church,
 Town house and school, upon a hill

Clinton is quite a thriving place,
 With half a dozen shops or so,

A store is being started now;
 We hope the owner'll make it go.

South Antrim is the largest place,
 Two stores, two churches, halls and
 school,—
 There was a tailor, but he's left,
 He had a fuss about his rule.

Some sixty buildings in the place,
 Besides the barns we do not count,
 The Post Office (although 'tis small)
 Goes in to make up the amount.

Three hundred voters may be raised,
 To have their say in town affairs,
 Republicans will have their way
 In spite of Democratic prayers.

The farmers do not raise much grain,
 For grazing is their aim and end,
 They raise their cattle, cut their hay,
 And have their gardens all to tend.

Three ministers the town supports,
 The Presbyterian takes the lead,
 The Methodist and Baptist, too,
 Make up the three of which we read.

But we have written quite enough
 Of this most useless, senseless rhyme,
 So we will drop our pen and ink,
 And write the rest another tiem.

Chas. H. Chapin



CARNIVORES OF GREGG LAKE

Joan Gorga

For me, the word “carnivore” always conjures up visions of grizzly bears and saber-toothed tigers. While paddling around Gregg Lake this summer, I encountered a number of bright yellow flowers held up above the water surface by floating radiating tentacles with branched ends. It turns out that these are the flowers of native carnivorous plants, like pitcher plants and sundews, that live in nutrient-poor locations and trap insects for a source of nitrogen. This particular plant is named *Utricularia radiata*, but is more commonly called floating bladderwort. The submerged stems have tiny bladders that open when a small organism, such as a nematode or a water flea, brushes against them. When the trap door opens, the organism is swept into the bladder, where it is trapped and digested when the door closes. The flowers are held a few inches above the water to allow pollinators to do their job without getting caught in the traps. I guess pollination would be less efficient if the plants ate their pollinators. The next time you see these delicate yellow flowers floating over the lake surface, think carnivore! ❁

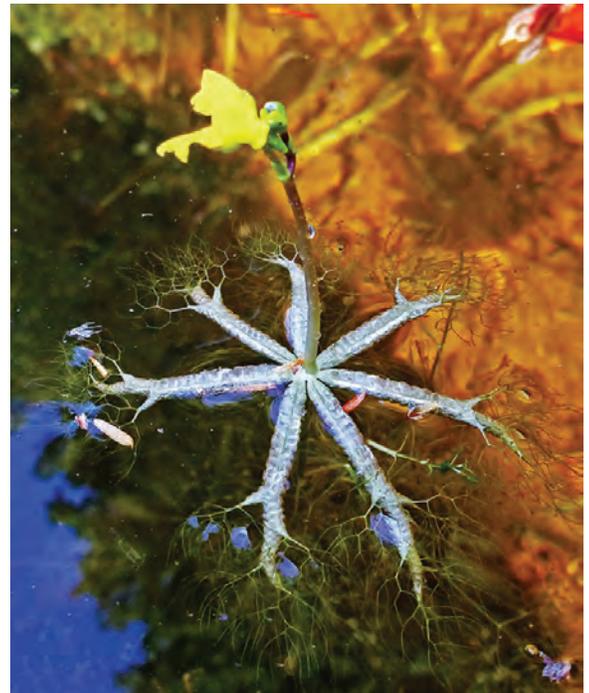


Photo: Joan Gorga



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ANTRIM GRANGE

Beth Merrill

Three members of Antrim Grange attended Grange Day at the Big “E” in West Springfield, MA. Many handmade items were donated by our members to the New England Grange Building for sale throughout the seventeen-day fair. The Antrim Grange exhibit that was displayed at Cheshire, Hopkinton, Hillsborough County, and Deerfield Fairs won many ribbons thanks to the work of Gloria Davis and Dawne Hugron, who were responsible for its creation, transport, and construction.

The Grange booth at Home and Harvest sold goodies and collected donations for the Dictionary Project. Our dictionary-themed parade float was awarded a prize by the parade committee. Funding was secured for purchasing dictionaries for our 15th year of participating in the project. A dictionary has been presented to every third grade student in the Antrim, Bennington, Dublin, Frankestown, Greenfield and Peterborough elementary schools.

Thanks to the generosity of Liz Robertson, we held a fabric and crafts sale on two Saturday mornings this fall, which was a lot of fun. This is a project that we plan to continue in the spring.

At the recent State Grange session in West Lebanon, Antrim members Arthur Merrill, Steward; Adam Paquin Varnum, Assistant Steward; and Beth Merrill, Executive Committee, served in their respective state offices, and were re-elected to serve another term. Beth Merrill won awards for her needlework and greeting card entries and was awarded the distinction of Honor Lecturer. Sarah Mercier won second place with her counted cross stitch entry. Arthur was named the top scorer in the Grange Knowledge Test sponsored by the youth department. One of Beth’s greeting cards was selected to be sent to the National Grange convention to be displayed in the Showcase exhibit. In November, Arthur and Beth attended the 150th National Grange convention in Herndon, VA. Arthur was a prominent member of the cast that conferred the Seventh Degree.

Our “Stepping Up in the Grange” tree is now on display at the Festival of Trees. Our twentieth annual cookie decoration meeting was moved to Thanksgiving time this year due to the date change for the town Tree Lighting event. Antrim Grange is happy and eager to prepare and serve the December 15 free Community Supper at the Presbyterian Church and have some festive activities planned for our diners’ entertainment. We hope you will join us for a turkey-and-biscuits supper!

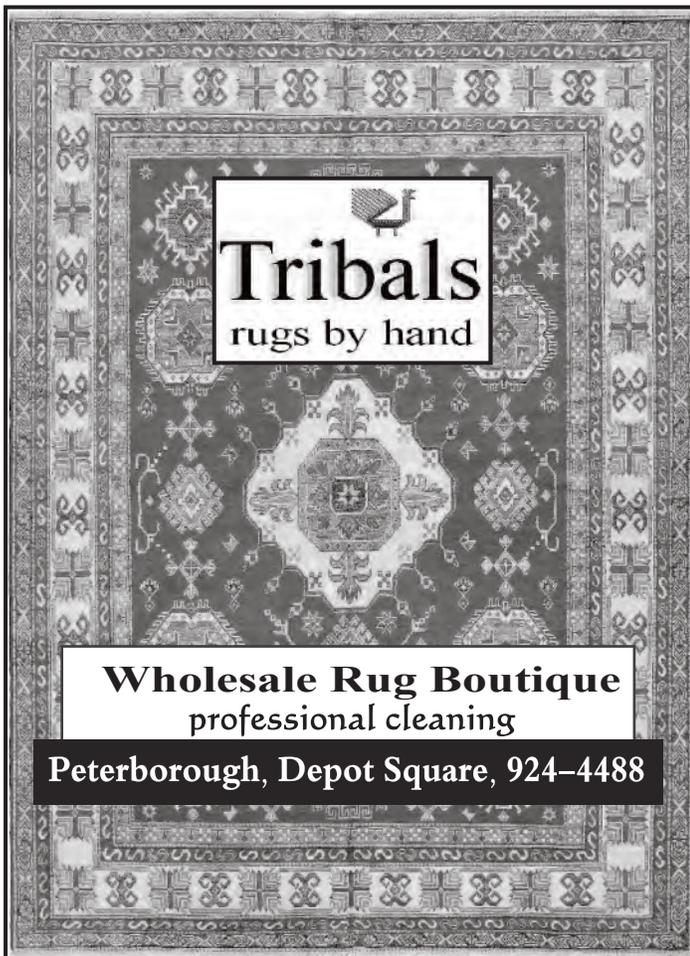
Antrim Grange supported the Grapevine online auction by donating a certificate for 4 free meals and 2 complimentary Penny Sale ticket sheets for our Summah Suppah in August 2017. We were happy to assist this valuable organization in this small way.

Please watch for future announcements regarding our free winter speaker programs in January and February. Meet the Candidates Night, where you can meet and ask questions of the folks who are running for town office and will be seeking your vote at Town Meeting in March, will be held on February 22.

One of the best and most unique features of Grange membership is the multi-generational relationships fostered among the members, starting at the age of 14. You might like to consider joining our “family” so you, too, can take advantage of the many opportunities that Grange provides its members. Inquiries may be directed to Beth Merrill at 588-6615 and bmerrill@nhgrange.org or Renee Mercier-Gerritsen at 547-5144 and renee_mercier@yahoo.com. ✨

WANTED

The *Limrik* is always looking for contributing writers and artists. Please contact Joan Gorga at editor@antrimlimrik.org if you have an idea or would like to make a contribution. ✨



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BEER JELLY?

Joan Gorga

As I wandered from booth to booth thoroughly enjoying the Spring Pond Farm venue on this year's Wool Arts Tour, a little jar of Working Man's Porter Jelly caught my eye. Beer jelly? Who ever heard of that? It turned out it was not only made from Henniker Brewing Company beer, it was made at Deer Meadow Homestead in Antrim, and a taste quickly won me over.

Grace Rowehl and her husband, Tim, moved to Antrim five years ago from Long Island, New York. They had vacationed in Stoddard for many years, and when Tim's father, Ed, passed away, leaving his house in Antrim, they decided to move in rather than sell it. Grace had been the office manager at a small mental health clinic in New York and figured she would find a similar job here. While she looked, she began making and giving away jams and jellies to family and friends. Not finding a job, and encouraged by others, she got certified and established Deer Meadow Homestead. Just look for the little red tractor on West Street.

Grace sources most of her ingredients locally. She makes juices from her own apples and grapes, and grows other ingredients, such as the peppers in her pepper jellies, in her own garden or gets them from local farmers. Like everyone else, she had no peaches this year, so no peach jams, but lots of other fruits were available in abundance. Although she does occasionally

buy frozen fruit for some of her more exotic mixtures, she gets many of her berries fresh from Monadnock Berries in Troy. She currently uses Henniker Brewing Company beers to make her four beer jellies. Her apple pie jelly is a delightfully spicy rendition of apple jelly. Her bourbon tomato jam, made with brown sugar and spices, is more like a savory barbecue sauce. She also makes granola and cookie, pancake, biscuit and beer bread mixes, which she sells alone or in attractive gift packages with local maple syrup or baking crocks made by Salmon Falls Stoneware in Dover.

Grace usually spends five days a week at home working on batches of jellies, jams, granola or baking mixes, and on weekends heads out to sell them at craft fairs and farmer's markets. She's looking forward to completing some renovations on her sixties-style kitchen, which will give her a better working space, as well as improved display space within her house for the occasional person who drops in to see what she's about. She says she left a nice close-knit community in the mental health clinic where she used to work, but now she has different friends with a wide variety of talents—carving buttons, making jewelry, fusing glass, making soap—and she's amazed at the level of creativity found in this area. Tenney Farm and Bennington Gardens carry some of her offerings. She also has a display at Hannah Grimes Marketplace in Keene. She invites you to be both local and adventurous this season. Beer jelly, anyone? ❁



Photo: Frank Gorga

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CIRCLE OF STRENGTH THANK YOU

Susan Ellsworth

The Circle of Strength Military Support Group would like to thank the Great Brook and Wells School Students for their wonderful handmade Christmas and Veteran's Day cards for the deployed troops and Veterans. This is an ongoing gift given to our troops to tell them the children at home care about them and support them each of the past four years. We are so grateful and proud to receive these cards to pass on for our service men and women past and present. I would like to thank all the members of our group who made the delicious homemade cookies and snacks that we shipped in our care packages. We could not send these care packages without the generous donations we received from Mr. and Mrs. Clay Hollister, Mrs. Bonnie Drummond, The Brick Ends Financial Services in Peterborough and others. Mostly I would like to thank the ladies of our group for their continued support for our troops and me, making this all possible. ❁



December

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Contact Kathi Wasserloos at 588-2253 or email her at kathiwasserloos@hotmail.com or, or any other member of the Antrim Historical Society Board list on the website at www.antrimhistoricalsociety.org.

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AVENUE A TEEN + COMMUNITY CENTER

Jacqueline Roland

It's been a busy fall at Avenue A. In September we partnered with the Monadnock Roller Derby to offer roller skating classes. And our Creative Writing Club became an Extended Learning Opportunity for ConVal students.

October marked the start of the Avenue A Club's third year, the return of Musical Mondays and another Art at the Avenue workshop. Local teens also enjoyed our pumpkin carving day and our Halloween Party. Over 150 adults, teens, and kids visited Avenue A during the party!

Once a month during Open Hours, John Anderson from Ragdoll Animation gives teens the opportunity to try his virtual reality set. These "VR" nights have been a huge hit!

Ongoing Teen & Community Programs

Mondays: *Musical Mondays* (3rd–5th graders), once a month from 6–7:30 p.m.*

Tuesdays: *Creative Writing Club* (9–12th graders), 6:30–8:00 p.m.

Wednesdays: *The Avenue A Club* (5–8th graders), 2:20–4:15 p.m.

Wednesdays: *Al-Anon* 6 p.m.

Thursdays: *Art at the Avenue Workshops* (5–12th graders), once a month from 6–8:00 p.m.*

Fridays: *Teen Open Hours* (ages 13–18), 6:30–9:00 p.m.

Sundays: *Alcoholics Anonymous*, 6:00 p.m.

*Check our Facebook page for dates.

Upcoming Special Event: The Vine Story Hour "All for Love," Thursday, February 2, 7:00 p.m. Join us for a night of storytelling based on NPR's MOTH Story Hour. Admission is by donation. Proceeds benefit Avenue A.

New programs in the works include a middle school creative writing club, teen open mic nights and winter break activities.

Big thanks to the people and businesses who gave their time and resources to Avenue A this fall, including **Sue Conklin**, **Matt Ferrisi**, and **Barbara Roland** for chaperoning Open Hours; **Randy Maxey** for leading our September Art at the Avenue; **Jocelynn Drew** and **The Monadnock Roller Derby** for partnering with us to provide roller skating classes; **Principal Elder** and **GBS** for letting us use the school gym and skates; **Ted Brown** for volunteering at the Ave A Club; **John Anderson** for letting students use his VR set and for helping with our Carving Party; the **Monadnock Pumpkin Festival** for donating pumpkins; **Shaw's**, **Target**, **Hannaford's**, and **Walmart** for donating gift cards for supplies; **Antrim Home & Harvest** for giving us a booth at the Festival; **Garrett Kavenagh** for volunteering all day; **T-Bird Mini-Mart** for donating a gift card for our raffle and the **Antrim Marketplace** for donating ice; **Goffstown Truck Center** for helping us bus students to and from the Avenue A Club, **Five C's Concessions** for donating treats for Open Hours; **Antrim 2020** for donating snacks; **Margaret Warner** for donating YA books; **Kristen Vance**

for helping us move out furniture; **The GBS Morning Show** for promoting our events; **Julie Brown** for organizing our Vine Story Hours; **Mary Lou O'Neil** and **Mark Holding** from ConVal for helping us make our Writing Club an ELO; **Eric Poor**, **Jen Duffy**, **Abby Kessler**, and **Sarah VanderWende** for being guest writers; **Cynthia West** for giving us an ad in Monadnock Living Magazine and facilitating our Writing Club; **Cathy Roberts** for judging our Halloween Costume Contest; **the Tuttle Library** for donating candy.

And, thank you to all the parents, siblings, and grandparents who drive teens to our programs! We appreciate you!

If you're interested in volunteering at Avenue A, please let us know. For more info email avenuea@grapevინeh.org or call The Grapevine at 588-2620. ✨



Courtesy photo

THE GRAPEVINE FAMILY AND COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER: THEN & NOW

Melissa Gallagher

In celebration of twenty years of service to our community, we are featuring a retrospective of photos and interviews with Grapevine staff and supporters. Thank you to our community for your continued support and goodwill!

Interview with Carol Lunan, Family Support Director, Parent Facilitator and Learning Vine Teacher with the Grapevine since 2000:

How did you come to be a part of the Grapevine?

“I didn’t know anything about the Grapevine—it was actually my husband who told me about it. He was here doing some work on the building and overheard people talking about starting a preschool program and needing a teacher. I thought I would be here for a little while, and here I am 16 years later!”

After 16 years, what continues to inspire you?

I am inspired by the diversity of my work, the creative process I get to be a part of and always being able to create something new.



Courtesy photos

What do you love about the Grapevine?

I love the people, families, staff and relationships I’ve formed.

As we grow, what are you looking forward to?

I am looking forward to more school collaboration and a deeper understanding of the community’s needs. I am excited about our role in advocacy for grandparents parenting their grandchildren and helping families get what they need. ✨





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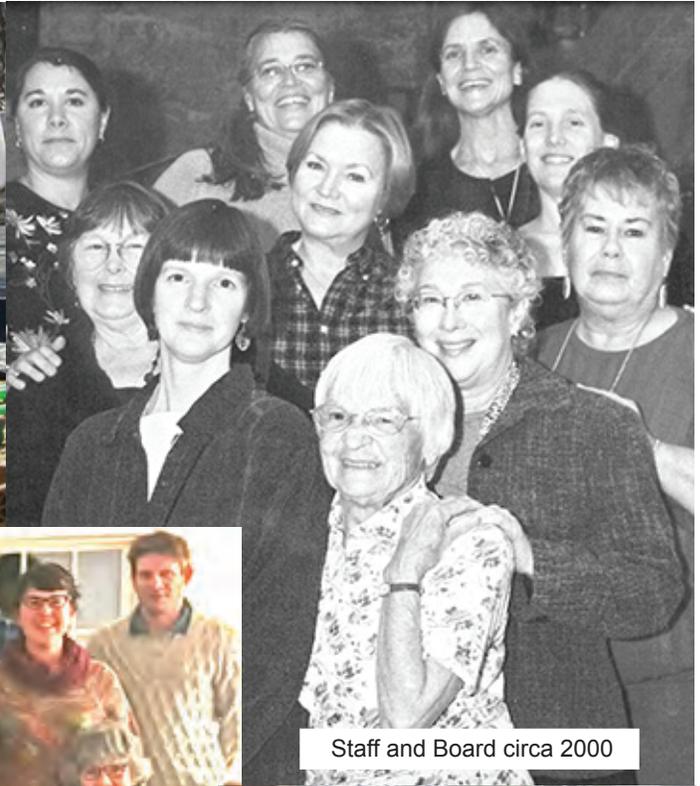
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A JOURNEY THROUGH THE YEARS

Photos courtesy of The Grapevine



Our beloved volunteer Betty Avery



Staff and Board circa 2000



Staff and Board 2016



Ben Pratt & Wayno Olson



Home & Harvest Float 2010



Home & Harvest Float circa 2000

THE GRAPEVINE

Melissa Gallagher

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

This year we celebrate 20 years of service to our community! We have come a long way since our humble beginnings in Antrim in 1996. I am proud that we have stayed true to our roots, while continuing to grow and seek new opportunities. I truly value community feedback and ideas on what you like, how we can improve and what you want to see more of. Please email me directly with your thoughts and ideas at melissag@grapevინeh.org. And if you haven't already, please consider supporting us this holiday season with a financial contribution. Thank you for your continued support!

WELCOME

In September, **Laurie Cass-Griggs** joined our staff in administrative support. She has been a wonderful addition to our team! In November, **Kim Fletcher** joined our Board of Directors. As an accountant, Kim brings years of financial management experience and has just opened a home practice in Antrim. Welcome, Kim!

SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Internet Safety for Parents. The Grapevine and The River Center are co-sponsoring a series on Internet Safety for Parents, geared toward parents of 9–14 year olds though applicable to all. Register online at www.rivercenter.us or call the Grapevine. Free; donations accepted. **December 1, 7–8:30 p.m. at Avenue A.**

PSE Service Highlights. Learn about Flower Essences and how they can be used as a tool toward wellness. Offered though the People's Service Exchange (PSE) for Time Dollars! **December 12, 6:30–8 p.m. at Avenue A.**

PSE Drop In. Current members and anyone curious about Time Banking are invited. Nancy O'Brien, PSE Coordinator, will be on hand. **January 3, 11–1 p.m. at Avenue A.**

Current Issues and Trends in the field of Early Childhood Education. Attendees will develop a format for a series of discussions to address issues arising in early childhood settings. Nancy Macalaster will share ideas from her course work on *Addictions and the Family* with an exploration of substance use disorders and their impact on families. Free; donations welcome. Bring a snack; coffee and tea provided. **January 28, 9–12 noon.**

Guiding Good Choices. This nationally-recognized workshop teaches parents of children aged 9–14 effective family management and communication skills to help reduce their children's risk for using alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. Offered in partnership with GBS and AES, and generously sponsored by Bank of New Hampshire. Pizza provided and childcare available. Call to register. Five Wednesday evening sessions **beginning March 8.**

A New Kind of Kids Tea Party! The *Super Duper Tea Party* invites children to come sporting their favorite superhero or tea party costume (or anything in between)! **STAY TUNED for Date and Time.** Tickets, \$10 for 1 adult and 1 child (max family expense, \$20). Reservations recommended. Delicious baked goods, light lunch fare and beverages, with tea of course. Call for more information.

ONGOING PROGRAMMING

Grandparents Parenting Grandchildren. If you're parenting your grandchildren, you're not alone. Meets monthly; free. Call and ask for Carol for more information.

Before and After School Clubs. Call to register your elementary school student in the Before or After School Clubs, which operate at AES 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.

Strong Living Senior Exercise program, Tuesdays and Fridays at 1:30 p.m.

Weekly Children's Programs. Call Carol to sign up or for more information.

Better Beginnings playgroups and parent groups: Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 9:30–11:30 a.m.

The Learning Vine parent co-op preschool: Wednesday and Friday 9–11:30 a.m. for children 3½ to 5 years old. *We still have space!*

Better Beginnings for Babies: Parents with babies who are crawling and young toddlers, Wednesdays, 10–11:30 a.m., and parents with younger babies and newborns, Wednesdays, 1–2:30 p.m. Expectant parents welcome.

Hillsborough parent-child playgroup: Wednesdays, 10:30–12 noon at the Dubben House, Hillsborough.

Free Tax Preparation. IRS-certified tax preparer Larry Schwartz is providing free tax preparation at The Grapevine on Mondays from 3–6 p.m. beginning January 23. All returns will be filed electronically. Call The Grapevine for an appointment.

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 place to cut and haul tree lengths as well. Volunteers with chainsaws and trucks are especially encouraged, but we could also use anyone who would like to get a workout splitting and stacking. Call to help.

Thank you to the many who supported The Grapevine over the fall, including the **local businesses, families and shoppers** who gave over 200 quality items to the Third Annual Grapevine Online Auction; **Jeanne Baker and Carol Carnes** for donating backpacks filled with school supplies; **Mike Frosch** of FRINC for backhoe work in the wood bank yard; **Charles Levesque** for donating a delivered cord of seasoned, split wood; **John McGurty of McGurty Main-**

tenance for washing all of the Grapevine carpets; our Home and Harvest float trailer and driver donated by **Mike's Towing of Bennington**; the volunteers who have readied the wood bank for the heating season, including **Andrew Ben-nion, Tom Badgley, Nancy, Scott and Grace O'Brien**, as well the local businesses who have contributed wood, including **Ed Lemire and DH Cahoon**; **Andrew Bergeron** for landscaping and wood bank area cleanup; delicious apples donated by **Tori Gelinias and family**; program volunteer **Emily Dean**; Parent Event Committee volunteers, including **Eren Pils Martin, Tori Gelinias, Molly Cook, Jennifer Pearson and Sue Conklin**; **Kathleen Crawford** for many hours of work on the Coupon Exchange; and **Dee-Ann Dubois** for coordinating the Terracycle Campaign with the PSE.

Services Available at The Grapevine...

Information and Referral to resources for food, housing, heating and other needs

Community Wood Bank—for urgent needs

Tax Preparation and Budgeting Assistance with Larry Schwartz of PHC Financial

Child and family counseling through Monadnock Family Services

The Grapevine is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit family and community resource center located at 4 Aiken Street. For more information call 588-2620, email info@GrapevineNH.org or visit 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. ✨

Home & Harvest Float 2016

Chris Patten Concert Benefit 2015



Donation from Laconia Bank 2012

Courtesy photos

Children from years ago—now grown up!

Wednesday is...

BIG BURGER DAY

with Fries... **\$4.99***

*Cannot be combined with any other offer.

Seafood Sunday

Buy 1 get 2nd at 1/2 price*

*half off cheaper item

We now have
Beer & Wine
to enjoy with
your meal.

OPEN

Sunday 12am - 8pm
Tue - Thur 11am - 9pm
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Don't forget our...

GREAT BRICK OVEN PIZZA

DEEP DISH PIZZA

FRESHEST SEAFOOD

Hot Steak & Cheese Subs

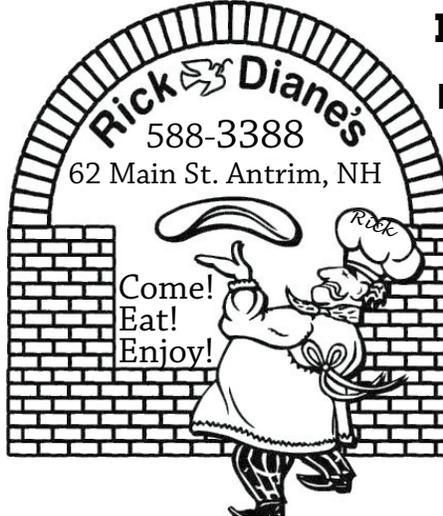
Home Made Onion Rings

Delicious Deli Subs

SPICY BUFFALO WINGS

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