

### Festival of Trees—“Lend Us a Hand”

Kristy Boulé

A veritable winter wonderland awaits at the Festival of Trees. The James A. Tuttle Library is filled to the gills with trees and displays of every variety decorated by community members, groups and organizations. Gorgeous, creative and humorous displays are found around every corner and can be seen during regular Library hours through the New Year: Mon. & Wed. 2–6, Tue. & Thur. 2–8, Fri. 9–12 and Sat. 10–4.



Photo by Frank Gorga

“Lend Us a Hand,” our theme for this season, has reaped wondrous results. Numerous community members and groups have donated hundreds and hundreds of paper hand cutouts of every size and shape, which were used to create the many garlands, wreaths and trees scattered throughout the Festival. Can you find YOUR hand?!

The annual Quilt Raffle is “An Antrim Sampler” created by the Festival Stitchers, an assortment of community members who con-

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### Preserved, Not Disturbed

Respectfully submitted by Al Gould

In mid-May, NH DOT field agents met with the Antrim Selectboard. The topic of discussion was the intersection of Routes 31 and 202. They proposed three plans, the most destructive of which was to lop off the nose of the Baptist Common and relocate the Soldier’s Monument to some undetermined location.

Michael Pon’s front-page article in the May 26<sup>th</sup> edition of the *Villager* brought this to the attention of Antrim residents. They were not happy. At the Memorial Day parade on the 29<sup>th</sup>, some people asked what could be done.

On June 9<sup>th</sup>, I placed a sign in front of the monument saying “NO” and started a petition. I also called Senator Ruth Ward of Stoddard, who did not

think much of the proposal. She told me she would contact the DOT, as well as Governor Sununu. With their intervention, on June 30<sup>th</sup> the DOT removed this option from consideration.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Senator Ward and Governor Sununu and especially the great people of Antrim for supporting and signing the petition. The first two signatures were those of Antrim’s oldest citizens, Fred (Woody) Woodworth and Dick Winslow, one of the founding fathers of the *Limrik*. Sadly, Dick passed away a short time later. He will truly be missed.

This battle went in our favor. “Forever Home” will remain undisturbed. “We must remain vigilant.” ♦

### The Opioid Crisis

Chief Marshall W. Gale  
Antrim Fire & Ambulance

Initially, when we think of the drug problem, and especially the opioid crisis, we think of a problem in the larger cities. But, as we now know, no area is free from this epidemic, including our own small town. In the last three years, Antrim Ambulance and Antrim Police have responded to numerous heroin overdoses. On the majority of these calls, EMTs have been able to reverse the effects of the heroin overdose with the drug Naloxone, more commonly known as Narcan. However, on several calls, too much time had passed before calling 911, and the overdose was fatal, even with EMTs on the scene doing all the necessary interventions.

Heroin comes from the opium poppy, a flower that grows in Mexico, Asia and South America. Heroin is one of the most addictive drugs in the world and has been illegal in the United States since 1924. Even after using it just one or two times, it can be hard to stop yourself from using it again. Addiction occurs with repeated use of the drug. In essence, the user’s brain is hijacked by heroin. It becomes dependent on the drug to feel good. In addition, the brain develops tolerance, which means it needs more and more of the drug to achieve the same results. When the user “comes down,” or stops using the drug, withdrawal symptoms occur. Users will feel jittery, get chills, vomit, have bone and muscle pain and feel other symptoms.

Heroin kills one in ten users who overdose. Heroin overdose inhibits breathing. It also causes blood pressure to drop, with heart failure resulting.

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## Limrik Staff

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The Limrik was founded November 1991 by Beverly Tenney, Lois Harriman, and Nancy Timko. It is published quarterly: March, June, September, and December and is delivered free to every mail address in Antrim. The Limrik does not receive any town funds and is supported entirely by subscription and advertising revenue.

### — SUBSCRIPTIONS —

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Subscriptions  
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### — ADVERTISING RATES —

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

Advertising copy is due February 10, May 10, August 10, and November 10. Ad content is subject to approval by the Managing Editor and the Business Manager. For more information and specifications on sizes, contact Ral Burgess at: 588-6650 or [business@antrimlimrik.org](mailto:business@antrimlimrik.org).

### — NEWS DEADLINE —

All news copy is due by February 10, May 10, August 10, and November 10. Please email your article to Joan Gorga at: [editor@antrimlimrik.org](mailto:editor@antrimlimrik.org).

### — LETTERS TO THE EDITOR —

The Limrik accepts letters to the editor of maximum length of 250 words. Publication is subject to approval of the content. Mail letters to Editor, Limrik, PO Box 84, Antrim, NH 03440 or by email to Joan Gorga at: [editor@antrimlimrik.org](mailto:editor@antrimlimrik.org).

### — WEBSITE —

[www.antrimlimrik.org](http://www.antrimlimrik.org)

## Antrim Fire Department

Tod Bryer

The State of New Hampshire has received a fire prevention and safety grant. The grant program, Get Alarmed New Hampshire, is a free carbon monoxide (CO) and smoke alarm distribution, installation and education program whose target audience is owner-occupied homes where children five years of age or younger and adults sixty and older are residing. The alarms will not be distributed to landlords for their renters.

Antrim was one of the communities chosen for the grant. All homeowners are encouraged to apply; applications will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Alarms will be installed by fire department personnel and the complete home will be done to current fire code.

To apply, call Antrim Central Station at 588-2114 and leave a message, or e-mail [AntrimFD@antrimfirerescue.com](mailto:AntrimFD@antrimfirerescue.com). ♦

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## Conservation Corner

Peter Beblowski, Chair  
Antrim Conservation Commission

### Conservation Begins at Home

Proper disposal of solid waste has a positive effect on both the natural and man-made environments. It helps keep our lakes, streams and roadways clean. It costs approximately \$90 per ton to dispose of Antrim's solid wastes. We generate ten to twelve tons a week and ship it to a landfill in Berlin. Any materials not shipped for disposal save the town disposal costs. Unlike landfills, which simply bury trash, and incineration, which burns trash, recycling removes useable materials from the waste stream completely and turns it back into useful products. Recycling both saves money and reduces the amount of trash going to landfills and incinerators.

The average American landfill contains approximately 37% paper, 18% yard waste, 10% metal, 10% glass, 8% food waste, 7% plastic and 10% other materials. Many of these materials, in fact approximately 75%, can be reused and recycled.

Recycling is mandatory in Antrim; paper, plastic, metal (aluminum and steel), glass, cardboard and yard wastes are all recycled. Did you know:

#### PAPER

- Recycling 1 ton of paper saves 17 trees, 7,000 gallons of water, 380 gallons of crude oil, 3 cubic yards of waste space in the landfill, and 4,000 kilowatts of energy. This represents a 64% energy savings, a 58% water savings, and 60 pounds less of air pollution in relation to new paper production.
- The 17 trees saved will absorb a total of 250 pounds of carbon dioxide from the air each year.
- Burning that same ton of paper would create an additional 1,500 pounds of carbon dioxide.
- Each year, 4.5 million tons of office paper is thrown away in the United States.
- Enough office and writing paper is thrown away each year to build a 12-foot high wall of paper from Los Angeles to New York City.
- The construction costs of a paper mill designed to use waste paper is 50% to 80% less than the cost of a mill using new pulp.
- Americans use more than 67 million tons of paper per year, or about 580 pounds per person.
- Paper products use up at least 35% of the world's annual commercial wood harvest.

#### PLASTIC

- Antrim recycles #1 and #2 plastics. #1 Plastic is polyethylene terephthalate (PETE)—generally plastic soda bottles, cooking oil containers and peanut butter jars. #2 Plastic is high density polyethylene (HDPE)—generally milk, water and juice bottles, bleach and detergent bottles

and margarine tubs.

- Identification codes are often on the bottom of the plastic container, encircled by a triangle with three chasing arrows.
- Plastic caps or covers should be removed from plastic containers being recycled and containers should be rinsed with water.
- Crushing containers will help save space while storing them.
- Americans use 2,500,000 plastic bottles every hour. Most of them are thrown away.
- Plastic bags and other plastic garbage thrown into the ocean kill as many as 1,000,000 sea creatures every year.
- Enough plastic bottles are thrown away each year to circle the earth four times.
- Approximately 88% of the energy is saved by producing plastic from recycled materials, as compared to manufacturing plastic from its raw materials, oil and gas.
- Recycling plastic saves twice as much energy as burning it in an incinerator.

#### YARD WASTE

- Yard waste can be composted.
- Brush under 6 inches in diameter can be burned in the brush pile.

Conservation Corner is intended to become a regular column. More recycling facts and information will be forthcoming. ♦

## Tax Collector News

Diane Chauncey

By now you have received your tax bill(s). As a property owner, you should review your property card every year. Now it is very simple to do online. On the Antrim website, [www.antrimnh.org](http://www.antrimnh.org), go the Home Page. At the bottom, in the middle, find "Click here for Property Cards." This brings you to a Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping program. It takes a little bit to navigate the program, but if you go the Tax Collector's page (Home Page, on the left side—click on Town Departments, then Tax Collector), there is a detailed description called "Property Card and Mapping Guide" that will guide you through the site. If you have any problems with the site, please call during Town Hall hours (Monday through Thursday, 8–4). Here's hoping you enjoy the program. ♦

*Thank you ...*

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

tributed blocks of every variety: wool-felted, cross-stitched, hand-appliqued, hand-painted, thread-painted, raw-edge appliqued, paper-pieced and traditional. The resulting 64" x 78" quilt is prominently displayed in the main circulation area of the Library. Be sure to stop by to take a peek and purchase a chance at winning this community original! Tickets are available for \$1 each or 6 for \$5. The main fundraiser for the Festival, the proceeds are used to help offset the modest expenses.

A special exhibit of holiday quilts graces the walls and halls with more than seventy examples of the artistry and talent of our community. Many thanks to the Monadnock Quilters' Guild and individual community members for sharing their treasures with us. Featured artists include Kathleen Anderson and Sue Cheetum, both of Antrim, as well as pieces by newcomers Neil and Carol Brown.

The Festival of Trees will be co-sponsoring an event with the Antrim Historical Society on Sunday, Dec. 3, at 3 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church. Paul Kachinsky of the Royalston Attic will present an "Interactive Discussion of Antique Holiday Lighting and Ornaments." Questions will be most welcome. Hear about the history of holiday decorations and those of your youth. Numerous items will be on display. Refreshments will be served.

A record number of special-event evenings are planned. No houselights will be lit for any of the evening events. The entire three floors of the Library will be aglow with lighting from the many trees, displays and holiday candles. A plentiful assortment of hot and cold hors d'oeuvres will be served. To aid our already-busy Committee volunteers, donations of baked goods, cracker and cheese plates or veggie trays are being sought. Sign up at the library or call 831-1802. Event information can be found at [www.AntrimFestivalofTrees.org](http://www.AntrimFestivalofTrees.org) or on our Facebook page. Queries can be directed by email to [AntrimFOT@gmail.com](mailto:AntrimFOT@gmail.com) or by calling 831-1802.

The Festival Gala will be held on Saturday, Dec. 9, from 6–8 p.m. We will have chamber music led by Great Brook and ConVal's own Jahna Moncrief. We will also feature a Meet-the-Artist night, in which exhibitors are invited to be on hand to answer questions about their creations. Voting winners will be announced, and certificates will be presented, culminating with the coveted Gilded Tree award for the display that garnered votes in numerous categories and best represents the spirit of the Festival. Donations to help offset the cost of producing the Festival will be encouraged. Each donor will receive a ticket to be entered in a gift basket raffle to be awarded at the evening's conclusion. Seasonal sweet and savory hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be served.

The season continues with Holiday Bells on Wednesday, Dec. 13, 6–8 p.m. Ring in the holidays with a special performance by the Hancock Bell Ringers under the direction of Sarah Hale. It's sure to be a lovely evening.

The Solstice Soiree on Wednesday, Dec. 20, will feature Sharon Dowling on Celtic Harp. Celebrate the oncoming shortest day of winter enveloped in the glow of holiday lighting. The Festival Quilt Raffle winner will be drawn at the conclusion of the event. The popular Scavenger Hunt is ongoing throughout the entire season. It's sure to challenge and entertain "kids" of all ages.

Antrim's Festival of Trees is a free month-long holiday event. Items are not for sale, although crafters may leave contact information. The annual event is put on by the Festival of Trees Committee, an independent group of community-minded volunteers who are committed to providing a free event to celebrate our community and to "put a little sparkle in the Holidays." Special thanks go out to our many volunteers and to the Trustees and Staff of the Tuttle Library for their support and for allowing us space to hold the event. We hope to see you this season and that you enjoy the display. Don't forget to sign our Guest Book!

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## Enthusiasm at Hawthorne Academy

Lyman Gilmore

*“Success is the ability to go from one failure to another with no loss of enthusiasm.”*

— Winston Churchill

This reporter has been writing hopefully, optimistically, for Hawthorne to be successful, beginning in 1995 when the Maharishi-Vedic School bought the property and planned a private high school based on Transcendental Meditation, in 2015 when the Beijing-based Overseas United Education Foundation, Inc., founded Hawthorne Academy and spoke of opening a boarding school that year, and last summer when a new Headmaster, Trevor Courtney, planned to open with its first class of students this fall. But alas, all of those openings failed to happen.

As I once more discovered in late October when I met again with Headmaster Courtney and members of his staff, supreme optimism and no loss of enthusiasm reign at the difficulty of getting the school up and running. They spoke of the most recent setback—problems meeting fire code regulations—as merely a temporary hesitation in their otherwise inevitable success. Courtney reported that they have a number of students, including some who have been “home schooled,” waiting for the doors to open.

One promising recent change is that Mr. Courtney’s new “boss” on campus is Business Manager, Zeyuan Liu, the son of Hawthorne owner Dr. Hong Liu of Beijing, China. I had met Zeyuan three years ago when I interviewed his father as Hawthorne Academy was just getting started. At that time Zeyuan was on campus with his father before beginning a graduate engineering program at New York University. Now, having earned his graduate degree, becoming fluent in English, and adding a wife and young children, he is living on campus in the historic North Branch 1824 Sawyer House. That the owner’s son is present to oversee campus operations and the Academy’s plans is surely a positive development.

Members of the staff who sat in on my interview are impressive, including famous Stoddard realistic painter-artist Richard Whitney, his artist wife Sandy Sherman, and school

nurse Barbara Berwick, who had worked with Courtney when he was Principal of Mascenic High School in New Ipswich. Whitney, who just won New Hampshire’s 2017 “Lotti Jacobi Living Treasure Award,” told me that he intends to offer an adult painting class for the Antrim community.

We met in Scarborough Hall, the largest brick building on campus, and Courtney and staff gave me a tour of the teaching facilities that appear well equipped and complete, missing only a group of students.

Courtney and his colleagues could not tell me when the fire code problem would be resolved, although they have hired an independent company to help them with the technical complications of bringing fifty-year-old buildings up to current code. After my interview I phoned Antrim Fire Chief Marshall Gale, who said Hawthorne is making excellent progress, and Building Inspector Dario Carrara, who said that though they began the upgrade too late to open this fall, they were on track to open relatively soon.

I remain more hopeful about Hawthorne Academy than some might say is journalistically justified because its success would be so beneficial to the Town of Antrim, because ever since I taught at Hawthorne College fifty years ago I have had affection for the campus, and because I like Beijing’s Dr. Liu, his son Zeyuan, Trevor Courtney and his colleagues. Be enthusiastic, and stay tuned.

*Late Breaking News—Weeks after this interview and just before the Limrik went to press, Headmaster Courtney called me to announce that the Antrim Fire Chief and Building Inspector have granted Hawthorne Academy “Temporary Occupancy” for day (but not boarding) students. Also, the NH Department of Education has given its OK for students to be enrolled and classes begun. As of November 14, five scholarship students have enrolled and are attending classes. LG ♦*



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Death occurs more often with experienced users of heroin than with new users. This means that every time someone picks up the syringe to inject heroin, the risk of death grows. Snorted, smoked or injected, heroin quickly reaches the brain through the bloodstream. Once there, it binds to opioid receptors. Narcan is an opioid antagonist, meaning that it blocks the life-threatening effects of an opioid overdose. More than one dose may be required to reverse an overdose of one of the more powerful opioids, such as fentanyl.

I was on the ambulance crew that responded to an overdose late one night several summers ago. On arrival at the scene, we found a young woman unconscious, unresponsive and barely breathing. We administered Narcan and assisted her breathing with a bag valve mask. Within minutes she regained consciousness and became alert and verbal. During transport to the hospital, I told her that she had been only minutes away from the point of no return, when we wouldn't have been able to revive her. I urged her to seek help and told her that she had her whole life ahead of her. She realized that she had an addiction problem and knew she needed help. About six months later, I heard of a fatal overdose in a neighboring town and sadly learned that it was the young woman that our ambulance crew had saved late that summer night.

This summer alone the Antrim ambulance responded to three overdoses. There is an inherent risk to the first responders on these calls. The Antrim Police Department and departments from surrounding towns do an outstanding job making sure the scene is safe and secure before we go in. When a patient is revived with Narcan, he or she may become violent and combative. We have been vomited on, spit on, and had fists swung at us. In October and into the beginning of November, we have responded to four calls for overdoses, with one call requiring four doses of Narcan to revive the patient.

Many times, once revived, a patient will refuse transport to the hospital and sign a refusal form, even with the crew urging the patient to go. When it takes multiple doses of

Narcan, there is always a risk that the Narcan will wear off before the opioid, and the patient can go back into respiratory arrest. As frustrating as this issue can be, we must realize people need and deserve help. Addiction is a disease and people need treatment and counseling. Do I have the answer? Definitely NOT. But certainly, until there is a solution, emergency services will continue to do what we do—save lives.

*The HOPE Initiative is pleased to sponsor a series of articles on substance misuse disorders and recovery. The inaugural article is by Antrim's Fire Chief, Marshall Gale, who has forty-one years of service with the Antrim Fire Department. During this time he held every rank, and was promoted to Chief in January 2016. Chief Gale also serves the town as Emergency Management Director, Health Officer and State Forest Fire Warden. The HOPE Initiative is honored to have Chief Gale as our first contributor.*

— Marcia Ullman



## **Antrim H.O.P.E. Initiative**

**Health-Opportunity-Prevention-Education**  
For Substance Misuse Awareness and Prevention  
*Supported by The Grapevine Family & Community Resource Center*

### **First Presbyterian Church**

Sharon Dowling, Music Director

Greetings! The season is upon us! Winter season. Shopping season. Ski season. Freezin' season. And Advent! The Church season that comes before the SEASON of Christmas! Advent is a time to prepare for the coming of the Baby in the Stable, the Prince of Peace, the Christ. Despite the ads on TV, it is not all about the "twenty-five days of Christmas" movies leading up to the holiday. Or buying the stores out on Black Friday. We start off the Advent season at First Presbyterian by decorating the Chrismon Tree and lighting the candles for the Advent wreath. Special readings and music during worship help us to prepare together for Christmas—all twelve days of it!

This year, the last Sunday in Advent falls on Christmas Eve. Morning worship will be at the regular time of 10:30, and will include the Christmas pageant. This involves the entire congregation! Christmas Eve service—traditional readings and carols—will be at 7 p.m. Candlelight and wonderful music! Cookies and cider in the Fellowship Hall afterwards—great time to catch up with old friends! The following Sunday will be a joint service of the Baptists and Presbyterians, this year held at the Presbyterian Church, with Pastor Jan Howe leading us in prayer and lots of Christmas carols (as it is still actually Christmas!). Please come and sing with us!

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## Selectboard Report

Michael Genest

Another year is coming to an end, and it has been a very busy year. Looking forward, we now enter the budget season.

The Highland Avenue/Pleasant Street project is nearing completion. The only items left are the asphalt top coat and some landscaping, both of which are better left until spring. This project has improved road drainage, as well as water quality and water pressure, especially to residents on Highland Avenue.

The Water & Sewer Commissioners are still looking for a replacement well site and are also discussing the river crossing for the water line. They are working with the Bennington Commissioners on a possible grant for an Asset Management Plan.

On October 27, our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Employee Safety Day was attended by more than twenty employees. Sessions included fire extinguisher training, CPR training and safe driving practices. Holding this type of safety training helps us reach the benchmarks required by our insurance company to receive a discount on our insurance.

After a public hearing in October, the Selectboard voted to extend the Payment In Lieu Of Taxes (PILOT) agreement with Antrim Wind Energy until the end of 2019. The negotiated agreement will increase revenue to the Town by more than \$550,000 over the life of the PILOT. There was also a one-time payment of \$125,000 to the town for agreeing to the extension. In July, the New Hampshire Supreme Court accepted an appeal challenging the NH Site Evaluation Committee wind farm approval. The Supreme Court issued an order scheduling briefs to be submitted by appellants by November 9 and opposing briefs by November 29.

The New Hampshire Legislature is currently considering changes to the way public utilities properties are assessed for real estate tax purposes. Selectman Bob Edwards has been attending the meetings regarding House Bill 324. If passed, this bill could significantly increase our tax rate. We're keeping a close eye on the progress of this bill and encourage you to write our legislators to help defeat it.

Our custodian Tom Carr has decided to retire. He was wonderful to work with and we wish him all the best as he enjoys his retirement and more time on the golf course. We are pleased to announce that Emily Platt has stepped into the role as custodian. You may recognize Emily, as she also works part time at the Transfer Station on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

The new Grove Street Bridge was such a cost-saver and was so well received by residents that we are considering installing the same type of wooden laminated structure for other smaller bridges in town. This may be a warrant article at March Town meeting.

The Highway Department has been busy since the most recent rain/wind storm, which downed many trees and washed

out some roads. They have done a great job repairing the damage.

The Selectboard would like to thank all our full- and part-time employees and volunteers for their hard work. It would be impossible to have such a wonderful town without their dedication. The Home & Harvest Festival is but one example of our great community coming together through their efforts. ♦

## APD on Facebook

Sgt. Brian Lord

In case you're not aware of it, the Antrim Police Department has established a Facebook page. The idea had been discussed at the PD for quite some time, and we finally decided it was time. Our goal is to reach the public quickly and effectively with emergency information, as well as to have an avenue for seeking help from the community and surrounding towns. We have posted photos of lost dogs and received immediate responses, which have led to successful reunions of the dogs with their humans. We also share events hosted by other great organizations in Antrim so that together all of our events are known to everyone everywhere. This has proven to be a helpful tool in allowing us to connect with the community in a positive way, and we believe it will continue to benefit everyone. Please take a look and like our page.

The Facebook page allowed us to promote our annual Father-Daughter Dance, which was a great success, as we were able to reach a lot of people with our updates. This year's dance had a '50s Sock-Hop theme. We had a great turnout, and everyone dressed up in their best '50s dance costumes. The Father-Daughter Dance cannot take place without the tremendous support of our volunteers on the day of the dance. We also received a lot of very generous donations from Antrim residents and businesses, as well as outside businesses, which resulted in our being able to put together some great prize packages and silent auction prizes. This year we moved the prize tables from the main lobby into the gym, which provided more room in the lobby to mingle and enjoy food and beverages. Moving the prize tables to the gym also provided a much better area to hand out the raffle prizes. I wish to thank all of the fathers and daughters who attended the dance and continue to support us every year, as well as all of our sponsors who also continue to support us every year. The donations and the money raised go right back to the community in the form of food for needy families, Christmas gifts for children in town, and support for many other organizations and events throughout the year that help to enrich all of our lives.

Thank you from all of us at the Antrim Police Department. ♦

## Boy Scout Troop 2

Michael Redmond, Scoutmaster

Boy Scout Troop 2 continues their path of adventure and service, just as we have for the last 104 years!

In July, the boys spent a week at summer camp at Camp Bell in Gilmanton Iron Works riding horses, water skiing, snorkeling, shooting black powder guns, forging metal, and more.

In August, they took the adventure to New York City. We camped on Staten Island, took the ferry to Manhattan each day, and hiked and took subways all over the city. Rockefeller Center, the aircraft carrier *Intrepid*, space shuttle *Enterprise*, 9/11 Museum, Trump Tower, biking in Central Park, the M&M store, and a day of rides and swimming at Coney Island were just some of the highlights.

In September, we gave the skatepark at Memorial Park a facelift, painting all the skate features. Then, at Home & Harvest, we sold fried dough, fresh-squeezed lemonade and hot dogs to fundraise for even more adventures.

In October, the boys camped, fired guns at a virtual shooting range, shot sport arrows, and competed in a multi-player Xbox "tournament" at the NH Army National Guard training center in Center Strafford. Halloween brought out our ghoulish side while we treated Antrim to our annual haunted house at the American Legion on West Street. Scares were had by all!

As we do twice a year, in an effort to further serve our community and help the less fortunate in our area towns, we participated in the Scouting for Food drive. The Troop 2 boys were able to go door-to-door to the always-charitable residents of Antrim and Bennington and collect over 3200 items of desperately needed food items for the Antrim Bennington Food Pantry.

Honk if you see the boys on Route 202 on the Antrim/Bennington line! The boys voted and decided take on the responsibility of cleaning a two-mile stretch of the road throughout the year under the state Sponsor-a-Highway program. A scout is HELPFUL, as one of the 12 points of the Scout Law states... and the Boys wanted to do their part to help the community by keeping this stretch of road that most of us travel on regularly CLEAN.

The adventures continue! The boys elect leaders to run the troop, and those elected have planned their upcoming year. Just for starters...summer camp in Rhode Island, rock climbing, hiking Mt. Washington, camping almost every month, an 8-day trip seeing all that Pennsylvania has

to offer, a cross-country trip to Yellowstone National Park in 2019, flying in a plane and earning the Aviation Merit Badge, and more! Want in?

We need you! As the flakes start to fly, don't forget to get your Scout-decorated balsam Christmas wreath this year!



Photo by Michael Redmond

Once again, the boys of Troop 2 will be hard at work making and selling their "famous" wreaths at various locations throughout town and online as well. All the proceeds go directly to Troop 2 to support their activities for the next year. We've got a beautiful wreath with your name on it! Visit [scoutwreath.org](http://scoutwreath.org) for more information on ordering yours! Thank you for your support!

If you or your son has any interest in the outdoors, camping, hiking, and all things Boy Scouts, and wants to develop leadership skills that will last a lifetime, email [scoutmaster@troop2nh.org](mailto:scoutmaster@troop2nh.org), or visit us online at [troop2nh.org](http://troop2nh.org). ♦



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## Antrim Historical Society

AHS Board

*I do love my hometown. It really forged who I am in a major way.*

— Dave Filoni, Film and Animation Director

The Antrim Historical Society is not just about things of the past—although we *do* love that. We are a group that reveres the present as well as the past. Our families and friends, our homes and neighborhoods, and our stories and memories are the glue that holds our lives together. The more we delve into Antrim's history, the more we realize that Antrim residents have a long history of being dedicated to that same 'glue' in their lives. Those oft-repeated stories told around your holiday tables are the stuff of your own oral histories.

The topic of Homes of Antrim has been our minds for quite some time. It is likely THE most requested research topic for our Saturday morning docents. We have selected several Antrim homes, along with related stories and photos, as the theme for our submission to the Festival of Trees. Thanks in large part to a major project conducted *circa* 1993 by Antrim resident David Hurlin, there is material on practically every home in Antrim! While our Festival tree can support only a small fraction of the homes researched by Mr. Hurlin, we intend to focus on a larger percentage of properties as our next major exhibit opening this spring/summer.

Our fall offerings have been many and varied. The annual Apple Crisp Social during the Home & Harvest Festival was a sweet success, and we thank all who supported us. The monthly program in October featured Linda Tenney and Cheryl Orcutt, who traced the history of rug hooking and shared many lovely examples of their handiwork. In November, author Richard Rubin helped us wrap up our 2017 focus on the centennial of US involvement in World War I as he told the story of WWI through the eyes of the last remaining veterans of the era. In conjunction with the Festival of Trees, a program on Sunday, December 3, at 3 p.m. will feature Paul R. Kachinsky of The Royalston Attic, who will address antique Christmas lighting and ornaments. Bring your old favorites for his version of "Christmas Ornaments Road Show." Our Sunday programs will resume in the spring.

As we dismantle our WWI display to make room for the Festival of Trees, we would like to express our appreciation to several folks who helped make our "Over There and Here at Home" exhibit such a success. The folks in the American Legion loaned us an overwhelmingly large number of military items, including the impressive water-cooled German machine gun. Legion members Don Paige, Steve Roy, and Al Gould went above and beyond to offer their assistance and advice. In addition, we are indebted to Antrimites Bob Flanders, Charles Butterfield, Anne Hennessy, and Bill Nichols, who loaned items to enhance our display. Finally, we thank all who visited the WWI commemoration of Antrim military personnel, nurses, and townsfolk.

Our oral history project is on-going. If you or someone you know is willing to share memories of their time in Antrim, please let us help preserve those anecdotes for your family and the town. As your family gathers for the holidays and if you make your own record of family stories, please consider sharing some of these with us. Or, if you know of any interesting stories of your home or its inhabitants, we welcome hearing them.

The AHS has been focusing on creating a data bank of information about Antrim—its celebrations and hardships, its inhabitants, and those who have moved away. *Today's events are tomorrow's history.* If you think you might like to share photographs (labeled, of course) or can offer your services as a local historian (clipping newspaper articles, checking the internet, reporting on town events and people), let us know. Our Facebook page is a great way to view recent donations, learn more about Antrim's history, or drop us a line.

We extend our best wishes to you all, and hold firm in our belief that there is "No Place Like Home for the Holidays."

The AHS Board: Barbara Black, Neil Brown, Joan Gorga, Bill Nichols, Victor Rosansky, Eric Tenney, Steve Ullman, Kathi Wasserloos and Rick Wood. ♦

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## *A Letter to My Friend Carol J. Chandler Malcarney*

Dawne D. Huntington Hugron

I thank God for his miracle for you, my dear friend Carol. We spent countless hours walking through these years together—hours that remain in my heart as precious, warm, tender moments that will go on forever.

I recall so many of those little memories... Growing up in Antrim. Getting to know each other. Spending time with you at your house at the Doctor's office, and loving those lollipops with the good little girl faces. Holding hands as we marched in the Memorial Day Parade—I have the picture your Mom and Dad took; you found it and sent it to me. I remember those days, but was so happy when I opened your letter and saw it.

Spending time at the farm. Walking in the woods. Enjoying singing as loud as we could and waiting to hear an echo. Enjoying birds and falling leaves and raking up a pile and jumping in, and just laughing at each other with leaves in our hair.

I remember when we rode in my Mom and Dad's truck, singing "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands."

School days, Girl Scouts, cheerleading and phone calls just to say "Hello." Our lives were woven together like a beautiful tapestry.

A lifetime of memories... The last was a "God moment." On October 10<sup>th</sup>, when we girls got together for lunch at Rick and Diane's here in town, Diane, June, you and I laughed and told stories of recent times and long ago, took pictures and enjoyed our company together. After several hours, we said our goodbyes, hugged, and promised to keep in touch through our group email and get together again in the spring. As Diane and June left, you and I continued to chat. We gave each other one last hug and, as you turned to go, said, "I love you and stay safe." Something whispered to me, this is my "God moment." I called you back, and you said with a smile, "What are you up to now?" I said I needed another hug and wanted to tell you, "May God hold you in the palm of his hand until we meet again." I wished you safe travel mercies as you drove back to New Jersey. We waved "so long" to each other; I watched you drive away.

We just don't know our future, so as I sit here, I am reminded to love one another, be kind, keep in touch and hug now and then. For these things are important and at some point become beautiful memories. I will miss you my dear friend, and I remember wishing you "safe travel mercies" and now in my memory you are home.

Your dear friend,  
Dawne

## **Beginner Beginnings Yoga**

Linda Davison

Namaste—a Sanskrit word meaning the spirit in me bows to the spirit in you—and welcome to Beginner Beginnings Yoga Class, a very slow, gentle, mindful yoga class.

There were two articles in the Spring *Limrik* that really caught my attention: the Jumpstart 2020 business class and Sharon Dowling's Presbyterian Church News. The business class with Victor Rosansky and the Jumpstart 2020 group gave me wonderful ideas and enthusiasm for slow yoga. Sharon's article spoke of a community labyrinth at the Presbyterian Church. I love labyrinths—they're fun and soothing to walk. Sharon and I met to talk about the labyrinth, and then moved on to yoga and such. From there we started a slow, gentle yoga class of two. After the Fall *Limrik* article about our yoga time, we have more participants.

Slow, gentle yoga class was created! It is held every Wednesday morning at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary of the Presbyterian Church for approximately 75 minutes. We move slowly and gently, using our breath to guide us through the postures, allowing our body to go slowly and stretch. Depending on our body's need, we practice on the floor, or use a chair, or even just sit quietly absorbing the energy of the class—being mindful of what our body needs and honoring that, keeping us more flexible and balanced.

All abilities and ages are welcome. We wear comfortable clothes that allow us to bend and stretch. If you have an exercise mat or rug, and a sturdy cushion to sit on, please bring them. Suggested class donation is \$10, which is shared with the church for building and maintenance.

I would love to offer private yoga guidance to anyone who feels that is more suitable for them. Massage is another offering for flexibility and relaxation. I offer both chair and table massage. Please email me for more information at [beleveinyourself108@gmail.com](mailto:beleveinyourself108@gmail.com).

Namaste

Linda W. Davison, Registered Nurse, Licensed Massage Therapist, Reiki, Certified Yoga Teacher, and Mantra, and best of all, Lover of Life ♦



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## Gregg Lake in the Thirties and Forties

Mary Chagnon and Janice Mellen

Our family (Mom, Dad and three kids aged 1–3, along with a baby who joined us two summers later), first started summering at Gregg Lake in 1931 when our father, D.A. Maxwell, took over the cottages built by his uncle, Frank Brooks around 1893. With donations and help from friends, Uncle Frank had built a total of six buildings—three cottages with three bedrooms each, a smaller cottage, a small store at the intersection of Brimstone Corner Road and Craig Road and a tonic house (a storage shed where we kept “tonic,” or soda) across the road. We summered in one of these cottages until the war years, when gas rationing made it difficult. Although the cottage burned down from mysterious causes in the fall of 1945, we four kids have many fond memories of those years.

At that time, Mescilbrooks Farm owned the three cottages now occupied by the Scotts, the Kohlers and the Felsmans. We always referred to them as the “compound” or Brown, Red and Yellow Cottages. The Red Cottage, back center, was one of the first cottages to be built on Gregg Pond, as it was known then, but it was built on the other end of the lake and moved over the ice to where it stands today.

*(Editor's note: Michael Kohler confirmed the rumor that the Red Cottage was cut in half and moved over the ice, but said no one seems to know exactly where the cottage was originally located. Ben Pratt remembers seeing a photograph of the Johnson cottage being moved across the ice from the other side of the lake, however, and says it wasn't that unusual for buildings to be moved.)*

Most cottages on the lake had no water. Some might have had lake water, but that was undrinkable. We had a spring a short distance up Cuddihy Hill. My dad piped it above ground, flowing by gravity, to a faucet between the cottages in the front. Every year we had to drain the spring, clean out the leaves and hook up the pipes for use. Then, drain the pipes again in the fall. We had outhouses, fireplaces for heat, oil lamps for light, and an icebox for refrigeration. Some years we brought a large block of ice from home in Henniker strapped to the running board of our 1929 Frank-

lin, and some years we had our own ice house, stocked with ice cut from the lake.

Our home was on Main Street in Henniker and had no yard for play, so we lived at Gregg Lake. We learned to swim and dive, row a boat, catch and clean fish, catch frogs and eat frog legs, pick blueberries, identify wildflowers and much more. We remember Aunt Myrtie Brooks, owner and operator of Mescilbrooks Farm, delivering milk around the lake. Our brother Robert was her “boy” one summer. Cushman's Bakery truck came weekly. From the bedroom window we enviously watched the girls from Camp Birchmere ride by on horseback. We played lots of board games and cards. Often we went swimming before breakfast in the morning and also took an evening dip.

We learned how to entertain ourselves and how to make believe. The hurricane of '38 caused a great deal of damage to parts of New Hampshire, but the results brought the four of us much fun. Just across the wooden bridge was a forest of birch and pine trees. The hurricane blew down all the birches in one snarled mass. We discovered that they would bounce up and down like riding a horse. We collected

old blankets for saddles and pieces of rope for reins and stirrups and had hours of fun bouncing up and down on them. What a summer of fun that was!

The cottage was surrounded by a rustic fence made from maple saplings. Our brother, at the age of three or four, put his head between two of them and got stuck. Mother couldn't get his head out. No phone or electricity in those days, and she was there alone. She called to two men fishing in a boat in the “Big Hole” just off the cement bridge, and they rowed to shore for the rescue. They sawed one of the saplings in half and presto, Robert was freed.

We knew one of the fishermen, but only by the name “Bigfoot.” He had caught a huge snapping turtle the previous summer and we had been allowed to get out of bed and go down to see it, along with several other large turtles that he made into turtle soup.

In the early thirties there was no road into Boy Scout Camp Sachem;



Pickerel caught by N.F. “Bigfoot” Hildreth, in Gregg Lake in August 1930. Length, 25 inches; weight 4 lbs., 4 oz.

— continued on page 20



## Of Elk and Trucks: Antrimites Head West

Joan Gorga

When my nephew told us he was making wedding plans for September in western Montana, Frank and I thought it was the perfect excuse to make a fall visit to Yellowstone. I snagged one of the last National Parks Senior Passes available in New England, Frank graduated from cardiac rehab, and on Labor Day we headed west with the car stuffed full of photography and camping gear and towing our little teardrop camper. The first night we camped in a delightful spot on a bluff overlooking Lake Erie and the next night we found a pleasant state park in northern Illinois.

On the morning of day three we headed into Wisconsin on busy Interstate 90. With a tractor-tanker trailer beside us in the right lane, we slowed nearly to a stop in a construction zone. Suddenly, accompanied by a loud crunch of metal, we saw the tanker lurch forward into another tractor-trailer. The rear of the cab and the front of the tanker rose up beside us and then settled back down just before we began a surreal slide sideways under the tanker. I looked out from under the tanker to see the smashed cab of another tractor-trailer, hissing and spewing liquid and poking through the side of our camper. The car passenger door wouldn't open, so I made a quick and surprisingly (for me) nimble escape out the driver's side, not knowing what was in the tanker or how long it might be before it blew up. That's the way two chemists think when they find themselves under a tanker on an interstate highway. We stepped back to see that our little green Subaru Forester had become the lettuce in a three-tractor-trailer sandwich.

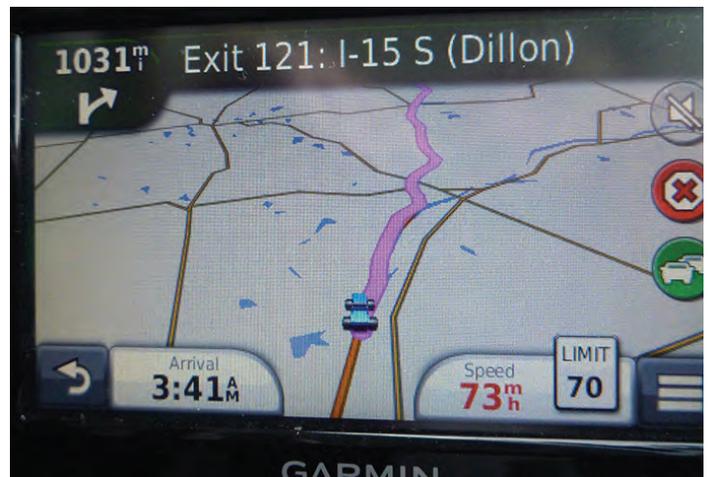
Emergency crews arrived almost immediately, and were amazed to see the two of us and all three truck drivers emerge from our vehicles. One of the state troopers said the loaded refrigerated truck that caused it all had to have still been going 70 miles an hour when he slammed into the tanker. It looked like the place to start disentangling the mass of crushed metal and bashed trailers was with our car. Although the trailer hitch was badly bent, we unhitched the camper easily, and several burly men helped us push it to the shoulder. Then they all looked expectantly at Frank, who reluctantly agreed to get back into the car, even though he could think of a few other things he'd rather do. With rubbery knees, he got the car into gear, gently backed it out from under the tanker and pulled it off to the side, too, so traffic could flow and the process of sorting out the trucks and cleaning up the mess could begin. We were relieved to find out that the tanker contained only the remnants of a shipment of food-grade vegetable oil. They had to cut the rear axle off it just to be able to tow it. The food in the refrigerated trailer had all shifted one pallet forward and broken through the front of the trailer.

Several hours later, we were awed by the state troopers who pulled their vehicles across the interstate lanes to make it safe for us to leave the scene. They stopped traffic on both sides of the highway for the long procession of fire trucks,

ambulances, police cars, tow trucks pulling mangled tractor-trailers, a flatbed truck piled high with truck pieces, once-frozen dinners and our sad little camper, and us in our still-drivable Forester as we all headed up the highway, across the median and back down a few miles to the exit for the tow yard and repair shop. With every bump and turn, more pieces fell off the trucks or out of the trailers and the tow truck drivers leaped out to pick them up. It was a slow procession.

It took some time to sort through the carnage at the tow yard. I assume they took the driver of the first tractor-trailer to the hospital, as he had an arm injury, and I don't know what happened to the distraught driver who caused it all, but we had long conversations with the tanker driver as he waited for his boss to pick him up from nearly 300 miles away. He decided he was going to take several months off before he drove again. I made sandwiches for all of us with some leftover grilled chicken we had in our cooler, and we joked about going out into the road to see if there were any more of the donuts that had been falling out of one of the trailers. The consensus was that our camper was totaled, but the car was declared safe to drive, if not beautiful, even though I thought it was making an unusual noise. By late afternoon we were allowed to salvage anything we wanted from the camper and, with the car stuffed to bursting, headed off to resume our trip west.

After we cleared Minneapolis, the GPS told us it was 1031 miles to our next turn! We crossed into Montana the morning before the wedding and figured we had a good chance of making it the 650 miles to Hamilton, close to the Idaho border, that evening. As we approached Billings around lunchtime, the air began to get hazy with smoke from wildfires burning farther west. In spite of the smoke, we decided to



take the scenic route to Hamilton through Wisdom, since we found ourselves still cringing in the vicinity of large trucks on the highway. Wisdom, population around 100, often lays claim to being the coldest place in the U.S. and is the site of the Big Hole National Battlefield, where the largest battle be-

— continued on page 16

## Tuttle Library News

Laurie Cass-Griggs, Cindy Jewett, and Melissa Lawless

### WINTER PROGRAMS

- Thursdays** Lego Club, 3:30 p.m.  
**Fridays** Storytime, 10 a.m.  
**December** Festival of Trees  
Facebook—Like Us and Check In to Win!
- January** Counting Steps at the Library  
New 3-D Printer!
- Jan. 8 Matinee Monday, 3:30 p.m.  
Jan. 11 Teen Movie, 3:30 p.m.  
Jan. 15 Closed—Martin Luther King, Jr., Day  
Jan. 16 Author-Mindfulness Teacher Janet Archer 6:30 p.m.  
Jan. 22 Matinee Monday, 3:30 p.m.  
Jan. 23 Retirement Planning for Women, 6:30 p.m.  
Jan. 29 Matinee Monday, 3:30 p.m.
- February** Blind Date with a Book  
Valentine Drop-In Card Making
- Feb. 10 Chili Cook-off. Drop off, 10 a.m. Tasting, 11 a.m.  
Feb. 19 Closed—President's Day  
Feb. 20 Social Security and Your Retirement, 6:30 p.m.  
Feb. 26–Mar. 2 Winter Break—Check our website for fun activities!

Have you seen our **awesome new website**? Check it out at: [www.jatuttlelibrary.org](http://www.jatuttlelibrary.org). Explore the circulation catalog from the comfort of home. Reserve books, renew a book or search for an interlibrary loan. Check our calendar for one of our many upcoming programs! Check out our new databases, including “Consumer Reports” and many more. You may need a login for some things. Since our website is new, we’re anticipating glitches, so please let us know if something isn’t working right or you need some help.

### Dates to Remember in December

For the entire month of December, join the **Antrim Festival of Trees** as they host their 8<sup>th</sup> year of colorful, festive trees displayed in the library. Join us for the fun and festivities!

Check in and “like” the James A. Tuttle Library on **Facebook** during the month of December to be entered to win a \$25 Gift Card to Dunkin Donuts! Check out our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/jatuttlelibrary.org/>. The winner will be announced in January.

### Events to Look Forward to in January

This January, we’re introducing a new way to stay fit and have fun. The library is going to **count steps** to see how far we can travel! Use your Fitbit, Apple Watch, Health App or check out a pedometer from the library and tally your steps each time you come in. We won’t use names; we’ll just track the steps to see how far the community can go in one month!

This past spring, three of our librarians attended training

on the State Library’s **3-D Printers**. We are very excited that January is finally the designated month for the James A. Tuttle Library to receive and explore a 3-D printer with our patrons. Come in and check out this exciting new resource this month!

Mindfulness teacher and **Antrim author Janet Archer** will be reading short inspirational stories from her book, *Invitation to Pause: Musings from a Mindfulness Teacher*, and talking about her self-published books on Tuesday, January 16 at 6:30 p.m. Join us for a delightful evening as Janet shares her often humorous stories about observations on everyday happenings.

On Tuesday, January 23, at 6:30 p.m., we host **Kathleen Murphy, financial advisor** from VALIC Financial Advisors, Inc., as she discusses Retirement Strategies for Women. Kathleen will share a 30-minute presentation with time at the end for questions. The snow date is January 25 at 6:30 p.m.

The library now has a **license to show movies**! Come in on Thursday, January 11, at 3:30 p.m. for a **teen movie** in the Young Adult Room. For younger children, we’ll be showing **Matinee Monday movies** on January 8, 15, 22, and 29 at 3:30 p.m.

### February Happenings

Do you make a mean chili? Join us for a **Chili Cook-off** Saturday, February 10! Bring in your yummiest or spiciest chili by 10 a.m. to be judged by our patrons. Tasting begins at 11 a.m. Who will win? Patrons—come in to taste and cast your vote!

On Tuesday, February 20, at 6:30 p.m., we host **Kathleen Murphy, financial advisor** from VALIC Financial Advisors, Inc., as she discusses **Social Security**. This program explores the cost of retirement, as well as options for claiming and maximizing Social Security benefits and how to bridge possible income gaps. There will be time at the end of the presentation for questions. The snow date is February 22 at 6:30 p.m.

In honor of **Valentine’s Day**, the library again will sponsor “**Blind Date with a Book**.” 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! We’ll also have supplies available during the week for children to make Valentine cards for family members.

We have some fun projects planned to liven up this cold February, including movies, rock painting and more. Check out our **new website**, [www.jatuttlelibrary.org](http://www.jatuttlelibrary.org), for more details and announcements!

Remember—the library is your place to get warm and cozy. Come sit in one of our comfortable chairs and read a book or magazine. We strive for a warm and friendly environment for you to relax in! ♦



tween the U.S. Government and the Nez Perce Indians was fought back in 1887. A few years ago, when we reported a moose sighting to park rangers there, they responded that it was probably the one that had attacked several people the day before. Another time, while attempting to take a short-cut around the Wisdom traffic—I have no memory of what the rationale could possibly have been for that—we found an eagle on a nest so low that Frank could stand in the back of the pick-up truck with his camera and look into the nest. Although we could barely see the surrounding mountains this time, we enjoyed a tasty dinner in Wisdom before crossing the continental divide at the Idaho border and dropping down into the Bitterroot Valley.

Luckily for us (but not for the nephew whose plane flight was cancelled), my brother George had an extra room in the house he had rented far up the side of Downing Mountain overlooking Hamilton. We drove up the steep switchbacks in the smoky pitch dark, thankful that we weren't towing the camper after all. When we got to the house, we could see scattered faint lights down on the valley floor. Apparently, the smoke had lifted somewhat; those who arrived before us hadn't been able to see anything all day.

In the morning, after a short hike up the mountain before heading down into the smoky valley, we found our car swarming with wasps, apparently feasting on the remains of insects picked up on our cross-country expedition. In North Dakota and especially Montana, where the speed limit is often 80 mph, we had been diligent about cleaning the windshield every time we stopped for gas, but all other parts of the car that faced forward were coated with insect carcasses. Since I'm allergic to wasps, we developed a system in which I would get a head start walking down the road while Frank gingerly got into the car and then drove as fast as he could toward the switchbacks. I leaped in when he pulled alongside. Even so, we would end up with several wasps in the car. By the next day, however, the number of wasps was way down and the car looked dramatically cleaner.

The wedding was a warm and artistic affair, held *en plein air* at my brother Byron's house with views of the Sapphire

Mountains to the east (or so he says) and the Bitterroots to the west, which were occasionally faintly revealed as the smoke thinned slightly. At least we were spared the view of the scar where his old house burned down in a wildfire last summer. A visit to the old house site found the moonscape of a year ago to be full of sprouts of native grasses and seedling ponderosas. We also stopped in at my sister-in-law's new art studio in the Hamilton Grange Hall, and were surprised to find a New Hampshire Grange plate on display.

When the wedding festivities were over, we bought a tent and sleeping pads on half-price-end-of-the-season sale (we would soon find out why) and stocked up on food and ice. A woman at the grocery store warned us not to go to Yellowstone because she'd heard the volcano was about to blow. We headed anyway for the remote Red Rock Lakes National Wildlife Refuge, just west of Yellowstone and home to arctic grayling and nesting trumpeter swans. Rangers there kindly lent us two bear spray cans when they heard where we were planning to explore, along with instructions that the person who was not being charged should use the bear spray. We were treated to a young bull moose trotting elegantly in front of us, coyotes, sandhill cranes, pronghorn antelope, bugling elk, and a fast-flowing creek that emerged straight out of a hillside. We thankfully returned the bear spray cans unused. We had, of course, planned to sleep in a hard-sided camper, but our tent fit right in at the primitive campsite there. Many of the other campers were bicyclists pedaling the Great Divide Mountain Bike Route, an off-road (or more correctly, off-pavement) trail crisscrossing the Continental Divide from Banff, Alberta, to Antelope Wells, New Mexico. I doubt I'll be convincing Frank he wants to do that anytime soon! After a few days, we headed east out of the valley, up over the Red Rocks Pass and on into Yellowstone.

It was immediately evident that we weren't the only people who had thought of visiting there after Labor Day. My Senior Pass got us quickly through the express entrance (I kept wondering why no one questioned it...do I really look that old?), where a sign said only the primitive Lewis Lake

— continued on page 27

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# Community Calendar

## DECEMBER

- 8 **FREE Hot Dog Supper & Movie "The 12 Dogs of Christmas"** • Antrim Baptist Church • 5:30 p.m.
- 17 **FREE Pancake Breakfast** • Antrim Baptist Church • 8:30–10:00 a.m.
- 21 **FREE Community Supper** • First Presbyterian Church • 5:30 p.m.

## JANUARY

- 16 **Author & Mindfulness Teacher Janet Archer** • Tuttle Library • 6:30 p.m.
- 18 **FREE Community Supper** • First Presbyterian Church • 5:30 p.m.
- 21 **FREE Pancake Breakfast** • Antrim Baptist Church • 8:30–10:00 a.m.
- 23 **Retirement Planning for Women** • Tuttle Library • 6:30 p.m.

## FEBRUARY

- 3 **Snow Families Outdoor Play** • The Grapevine • 10:00 a.m.– noon
- 10 **Chili Cook-off** • Tuttle Library • Drop off at 10:00 a.m. Tasting at 11:00 a.m.
- 15 **FREE Community Supper** • First Presbyterian Church • 5:30 p.m.
- 15 **The Vine Story Hour Fundraiser** • Avenue A Teen & Community Center • 7:00 p.m.
- 18 **FREE Pancake Breakfast** • Antrim Baptist Church • 8:30–10:00 a.m.
- 20 **Social Security and Your Retirement** • Tuttle Library • 6:30 p.m.



## Antrim's 8th Annual Festival of Trees

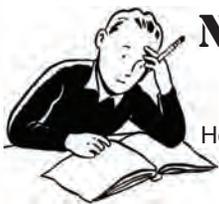


November 25 – January 2 at the Tuttle Library, 45 Main Street

- November 30** 6:30 p.m. *Josh Judge Book Signing "Be Nice to the Weather Guy"* presented by the Tuttle Library
- December 3** 3:00 p.m. *Antique Christmas Lighting lecture* with Paul Kachinsky of the Royalston Attic sponsored by the Antrim Historical Society at the First Presbyterian Church
- December 9** 6–8:00 p.m. *Festival Gala* ★ String Ensemble led by Jahna Moncrief, Meet-the-Artist night, Ribbon Presentations and Raffle
- December 13** 6–8:00 p.m. *Holiday Bells Performance* by the Hancock Bell Ringers led by Sarah Hale
- December 20** 6–8:00 p.m. *Solstice Soirée* ★ Sharon Dowling on Celtic Harp  
Quilt Raffle Drawing

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## Lil Fella, Part 3

Susan Ellsworth

When the weather was nice Mother would put Lil Fella's cage outside in the yard so he could be with nature. She would open the door and he would come out and crawl up and around the cage, but never leave the safety of the metal of the cage. Doctor Leo said he thought Lil Fella would never leave his family now to be in the wild. This made the family grateful and sad at the same time. They loved him and wanted him to be happy, but were also glad that he would stay with them and grow old together.

As summer turned into fall they noticed that Lil Fella was saving food in his nesting area. Mother told the children it was his instinct to store food for winter. Animals knew that when the snow fell it was harder to find food, and that knowledge was built into them for their survival.

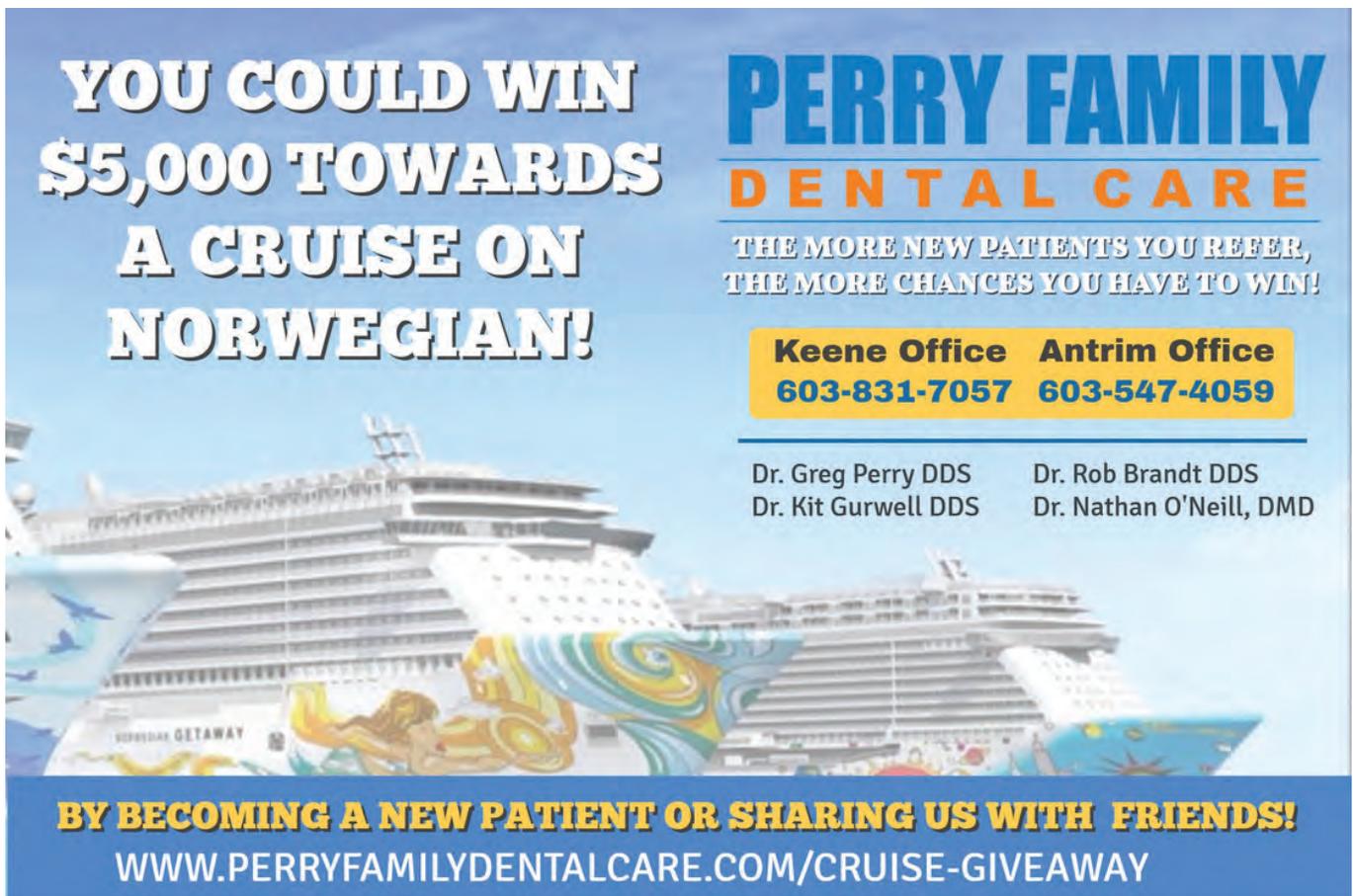
Every few months Mother would check in with Kathy at the Bronx Zoo to give her updates and see if she had any other information about caring for Lil Fella. Kathy was always amazed with Lil Fella's progress. She agreed that at this point Lil Fella would never leave the family and would need to be taken care of for the rest of his life. Mother told her that they were all okay with that and had planned on it from the day the female squirrel came to visit.

Lil Fella was a very social animal and loved to interact with his family and their friends. When people came to visit

they could not believe what they saw. They instantly fell in love with Lil Fella; he was a real crowd pleaser. He preferred people who moved slowly when they were introduced. When they were unknown, he was unsure and would not come near, but would just sit and observe them. He loved his family to rub his head and behind his ears. It would almost put him to sleep.

As the years passed, the family pets slowed down. Caesar slept a lot under the squirrel's cage to be near him. Lil Fella would sit at the bottom of his cage watching the dog. He could sense something was wrong with his playmate. Mother, too, noticed Caesar staying near Lil Fella and not moving around as much. One day when she called him he just looked up at her. She knew then it was time to call Doctor Leo, who said it was not good. Caesar was near the end of his life. Mother was crying. Doctor Leo gave her a hug and told her that he had had a good life for a dog, and many people had loved him. He told Mother Caesar was his favorite patient. Mother smiled and said he said that to all his families. He smiled, too, and agreed, but said that Caesar was a special kind soul and he was very fond of him. Mother took Caesar home for the family to say their goodbyes and later that night she and Father brought him back to Doctor

 — continued on next page



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Leo's. He gave the family some time to spend with their beloved dog before it was time for him to move on to the big cookie bones in the sky where all good dogs went. Caesar would go to sleep and never wake up again. It was a sad day.

Over the next few days Lil Fella looked around for his friend, clearly missing Caesar. He sensed Caesar wasn't coming back and was very quiet. Little by little he started to want to interact and play with the family again. Mother called Kathy at the zoo again to tell her the story. She told Mother that animals can sense things that humans can't.

Many more years went by and the children were all grown. Some had married and moved out, while others were still living at home. Lil Fella, in his nineteenth year, was slowing down. He slept more and didn't want to run around like he did earlier. He would come out to sit and let the family pat him, then go into his cage to eat, drink, and take a nap. Mother waited one day to give him some fresh veggies, but he didn't come out of his nesting area. She put her hand into the cage and found that he, too, had passed. He went to sleep and never woke up again; it was a peaceful way to go. He was now in the big place in the sky with his friend Caesar. There was a memorial service with family and friends for the beloved family pet just like the one for Caesar.

Days later, Mother called Kathy to tell her the sad news about Lil Fella. Kathy became emotional as they spoke, as did Mother. She had never met Lil Fella, but felt she had, from the conversations with Mother over the nineteen years. She told Mother he was the oldest living squirrel she knew of. She and her colleagues were happy that Lil Fella was saved by the family, and they couldn't believe he was never ill in all those years. The family had done an excellent job caring for him and should be proud. Mother thanked her for her kind words and help over the years; without them, things could not have turned out for Lil Fella like they did.

Kathy also told Mother someone should write a story about Lil Fella so others would know of him. I guess this is that story.... I hope you like it and this one's for both of you, Lil Fella and Caesar! XOX



## Antrim Recreation

Celeste Lunetta, Director

Our fall children's theater program, a musical version of *The Elves and The Shoemaker*, was one of our last autumnal programs before we kicked off our winter adventures! Other fall programs included youth soccer, with more than



Annabelle DeLisle and Caroline Stultz perform in *The Elves and The Shoemaker*. Photo by Celeste Lunetta.

100 children participating, Tae Kwon Do, bus trips, movie nights, roller skating nights, tumbling classes, basketball clinics and jump rope club. We had planned a soccer festival under the lights at Shea Field, but unfortunately did not receive enough registrations to justify the costs and had to cancel the event. We hope to run the festival next fall. We thank Rick Wood and the Antrim-Bennington Lions Club for their considerable commitment to helping us with this first attempt, and for the supplies they purchased and then donated to our basketball concession stand. We are also grateful to Rick Davis for first providing storage and then a home for the burgers that had been purchased in anticipation. There was great teamwork and community spirit, and we do not take it for granted! Looking forward, we are excited about our winter programs, including some new collaborations and programs for active adults.

We are members of a number of sports leagues: Baseball—ConVal Cal Ripken, Softball—Monadnock Youth Softball, Soccer—Merrimack Valley Soccer League, Basketball—

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everything was either carried in or taken by boat in an old Coast Guard Cutter that tied up at the cement bridge. One day we were all at the bridge talking with the Scouts when Robert slipped, rolled down the embankment and ended up between the shore and the boat. Mother went sliding down after him, but one of the Scout leaders reached over and picked him up by his straps and lifted him out of the lake.

Another incident was less hair-raising but more painful. Our Dad had bought us an old bike and the three oldest were all learning to ride. Mary was riding down Gregg Lake Road toward the bridge. She realized she was headed toward the edge of the road and, of course, the edge of the lake, too, but figured the bridge railing would keep her from falling into the lake. It did, but caused a much worse problem. The railing was attached to the bridge with very large nuts and bolts that had not been sawed off at the nut. One of these tore a deep gouge in Mary's leg. When my mother saw what had happened, she sent Robert to ride the bike to the Waumbek for help. One of the Cuddihys (either Anna or Alice) drove up and took her to the doctor in town.

Camp Sachem operated in the summer for many years. Campers arrived on Sundays and left on Saturdays. Parents would drop them off at the lower gate on Cuddihy Hill Road (now Brimstone Corner Road) and they would hike in on a narrow footpath. In those years, that was the only entrance. Logs pressed into mud got you over the low, wet spots. Food, lumber, etc., were delivered to the bridge, where Scouts would meet them in the old Coast Guard Cutter. The meadow dried up except for the narrow channel, and at times the lake was so low the channel was not deep enough for the boat to pass through. When that happened the boat would tie up at a small boat launch known as Sawyer's Gap just before where the town beach is now. We ran about and played all over the dried-up meadow!

The old town beach was across the street from where the Shumway cottage is now. It was a beautiful, natural sandy beach, but very small. The new beach, along with the peninsula, was made in later years, when the lake was no longer being drawn down to flush the brook downtown.

Where the boat launch is now was a water hole where Johnnie Brown pulled in to water his horse every day when going to and from town. One year the water was very low and a large mother horned pout and oodles of black babies got stranded in a small puddle. They would have died with no way for water to enter the puddle, so we took a pail, scooped out mama pout and as many of the babies as we could get and released them into the main lake. Also, the roads were all dirt and in the spring there were lots of red salamanders and tiny black toads hopping all over the road. You couldn't even walk, there were so many. Today, there are few.

We have many, many great memories of our summers at Gregg Lake. ♦

I recently ran across one of her handwritten music manuscripts. It was an arrangement of "Wait 'til the Sun Shines Nelly" for barbershop quartet. I was taken with how perfect the notation was, how easy to read, both notes and words. Even the tedious work of copying out parts was important to her.

A major responsibility for me while on the staff at Tabor Academy in Marion, Massachusetts, in the late 1960s, was directing the boys' glee club—100 boys strong. I decided to do Brahms' Alto Rhapsody with them and invited Isabel to do the solo. She was not a dramatic contralto, which is what the Rhapsody calls for, but she had notes below Middle C and was especially good in the sublime third section which includes the men's—in this case, boys'—chorus.

I was delighted to have her do it. Always the consummate professional despite the permission a small town gives you to be less, she arrived for the dress rehearsal with the piece fully memorized in German. She was also a commanding visual presence. I knew that in performance she would look and sound great. And I wasn't wrong.

Isabel had studied with a real contralto, Doris Doe, who had for fifteen years performed comprimario roles—"She was always somebody's mother," Isabel said—at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City. Ms. Doe's home, Melody Hill, was in Bennington, and Isabel liked to say you were required to drive past four cemeteries to get to it.

Doris Doe's real name was Jane Doe—what were her parents thinking? This got her into trouble when pulled over by a traffic cop in New York. He thought she was promoting a hoax with a fake driver's license. So she used her middle name ever after—had it legally changed.

Isabel and I remained friends until her death in 2005. Whenever I returned to Antrim we would meet and talk, especially at the James A. Tuttle Library where she was librarian. She maintained an active interest in music, new trends, what was I doing, which composers did I admire, etc. She attended my high school class's 50<sup>th</sup> reunion in July of 2005, and brought with her a scrapbook of memories specific to our class. It was a trip down memory lane. But that trip, for me, lasted more than fifty years. ♦



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## Fires in the Snow

Charles Butterfield

Hiking the lane today after the leaves are down I stopped momentarily to let a remembered scene sink in. The lane was once a town road that ran from Clinton to Gregg Lake. It was a busy route because at Samuel Gregg's pond he operated a sawmill and a gristmill. For eighty years logs and grain went up the lane, boards and meal came down.

When the road was "given up" by the town, it was incorporated into my ancestors' farm that had developed along both sides, and for nearly a century served to connect pasture to barn, woodlot to woodshed, and itchy haymow to soothing lake. Prominently marked by parallel stone walls, the easy old road is studded with fond recollections.

It was one of those recollections that stopped me at the place where sixty years ago my bride and I had led my sister's children into the woods for a winter picnic. Through December snow we carried hot dogs and marshmallows and a pot for cocoa to cook over a fire at this spot under pine trees.

The kids could see that building a fire in winter conditions is a challenge. Enough so that as a tenderfoot Boy Scout I was required to start such a fire without paper and from a single match strike. That was the rule. I was given one try. If I failed, I had to wait for another day.

I did not come to starting fires in the snow as a novice. My father's winter work was cutting logs. When I could, I went along to work with him. My job was to pull away the slash from his workspace and burn it. Coaxing a puny flame into an inferno that even ice-burdened branches cannot douse feels like an accomplishment to a twelve-year-old.

My hike up the lane today was interrupted for a minute where the kids had set about clearing away snow. They gathered dry pine limbs and cones and birch bark. Before long we had a kettle of snow melting and heating to make cocoa, and our hot dogs spindled on green sticks sputtered over the coals. A little wood smoke in the eyes is a small price to pay for moments that linger for decades.

Reverie ended, I continued my walk up the lane, wondering why the town decided to give up such a useful road. Straighter by far than the Gregg Lake Road we know, there

is not one noticeable curve in the lane. And the old route is flatter, much flatter. Though it rises from Clinton to the lake, the lane's incline is gradual; in places there is no slope at all. Just what you'd want if you were hauling things by ox power. And the lane is shorter than the paved road by a quarter of a mile at least.

It was the businesses sprouting up along Great Brook that account for relocating commercial traffic. No doubt years before the town voted in 1873 to transfer the lane right of way to George Parmenter, horse-drawn wagons and sleds traveled to mills on the river, wearing tracks that eventually became the common way to get from Clinton to the lake.

I've traveled both routes many times. For speed and convenience I take the paved road—the newly reconstructed and paved road. It's twisting and steep, as everyone knows, and in places the riverbank hazards require guardrails. Drivers take the challenge without much thought, but hikers on the road know the danger. Little wonder, then, that platoons of Boy Scouts from Camp Sachem, in years gone by, preferred the lane to the highway when they visited the village.

For recreation, *re-creation*, I shun Gregg Lake Road and walk the quiet lane. Overgrown as it is, it's a slow saunter. I think a lot. I remember a lot. Though I go alone through time and under pines, oaks and maples, remembered horses travel with me, cows too, and dogs after woodchucks.

This day, for a few minutes, I had the company of my young bride from the south who'd never picnicked in the snow and an eight-, nine-, and ten-year-old with hot dogs. ♦

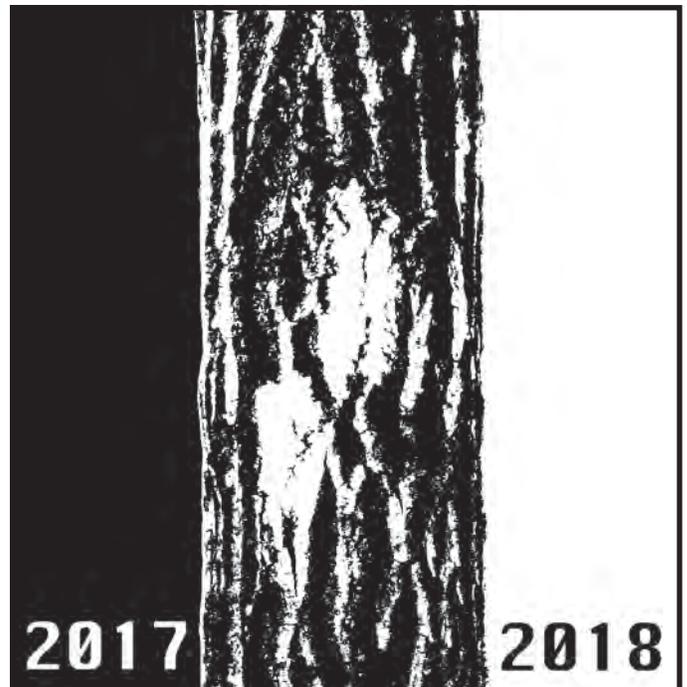


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Virginia Dickinson

All horses test you, to see whether you're ready to take command. If you aren't, they will, for their own safety. Then the rider risks becoming merely an inconvenient ornament to be discarded as quickly as possible. Once Julio realized I was gently determined to command, had some physical courage, and had no foolish intentions, he deferred to me.

I took Julio back to the stable. I groomed him again. He allowed me to ride him; the least I could do was clean him so he could relax. It is *quid pro quo*.

Some days later, I went to The Cheshire Horse in Swanzezy to purchase riding boots, breeches, and a helmet that better fit me, as I have a large, if not swollen, head.

Breeches have leather patches on the inner—the saddle—side of the knees that help one post—rise in the saddle in rhythm with the horse at the trot. The breeches are a mixture of cotton and unnatural fibers that stretch. Unlike the old army riding breeches of khaki twill that belled at the thighs and hips, they cling. Riding boots also help control the horse while being easy to place in or remove from the stirrups.

So when I next went to find Julio, I arrived in the polished high boots one might expect from, say, George S. Patton in 1939. I then plunged through three inches of mud to get and bring him in for grooming.

Dorothy insisted I place myself either to Julio's left or his right, but not behind him when fiddling with his hind hooves, hindquarters, or whatever. I thought of Copenhagen—not the Danish city, but the Duke of Wellington's horse on "the Glorious 18<sup>th</sup> of June, 1815," at Waterloo.

The Duke dismounted, exhausted from twenty hours in the saddle, riding from unit to unit, to observe, command, and inspire. He patted the horse on the rump. The Duke meant this as a sign of affection. That was lost on Copenhagen.

In the wild, the horse is a prey animal. He prefers to run, but he can defend himself with hooves, teeth, and sheer mass. But all horses love to work. It is their karma. Julio's work is to help Dorothy's students learn to ride.

Copenhagen's work was that of a charger, a warhorse, trained to remain calm amidst gunfire, trumpet calls, and screaming men. On June 18, 1815, he'd worked a very long day, enduring cannonades, whizzing bullets, and cannonballs flying over his neck to take arms and legs from the Duke's subordinates and staff officers. As on many days before, he'd done his job. As the Duke said of him, using a word that means guts, "There may have been many faster horses, no doubt many handsomer, but for bottom and endurance I never saw his fellow."

If the Duke had not been worn out, he might've sensed Copenhagen, having spent the day suppressing his fear of shot and shell, practicing that quality humans call courage, might've reached the end of his endurance. So the Duke's pat startled the horse, who lashed out with both hind legs. Happily for the Duke, he missed.

With the next lesson, I learned getting Julio from the field to the stable involves physical comedy. There are other things he would rather do. So he walks about, just fast enough to evade me. Eventually, I caught Julio and led him in.

That lesson had a further comic element as Julio doesn't think much about where he places his hooves. Half a ton of horse can make his presence known. I learned this when he placed his left front hoof on my right foot. Thankfully, I was no longer wearing my rubber Wellingtons, which might not have taken this as well as did the riding boots. I took a deep breath and exhaled, refraining from a few guttural consonant clusters that leapt to mind. It was my fault—I should have turned him while leading from the front instead of remaining at his side. The toenails are growing back.

Then we rode. I am slowly absorbing the discipline of riding at the trot. Posting involves working certain muscles I may not use as often as I should.

By then, Julio was shedding his winter coat. I removed nearly as much hair during the second grooming as in the first. Then I placed a waterproof sheet over him (an exercise in straps and Velcro), led him from the stable, removed his bridle, and released him. I swept up the hair and detritus, including some manure, and shoveled it out the door to the manure pile.

By power of association, I recalled the French cavalryman and politician who, opposing the adoption of tanks during the mid-Thirties, thundered during a debate in the Chamber of Deputies, "What would you have: the stench of gasoline or the noble scent of manure?" That was after an obscure colonel, Charles de Gaulle, had published his classic argument for the use of tanks in modern warfare, *The Army of the Future*. The book was ignored in France but a best seller in Germany. General Heinz Guderian, whose armored cavalry smashed through the French at Sedan in 1940, particularly admired it.

Julio was grazing in the tall grass when I arrived for my next lesson. He was wearing his halter. I had his lead rope in hand. He kept eating. I moved up on his left and reached for the bridle. He moved just fast enough to evade me.

We both stopped. He resumed lurching. I took short steps toward him, with long pauses. He didn't move. I came close enough to seize the bridle and clipped on the lead rope. Then I began walking toward the stable. He grabbed another mouthful of grass and remained in place. A contest of strength between a 190-pound human and a 1,100-pound horse is no contest. The horse always wins.

Finally, after some conversation, he began walking. At some level, he understands his job is to let me ride him.

To be continued ...

## Antrim Eagles Soar into Collaborative Work of Art

Carole Storro, AES Muzart Educator

Did you know that AES has a secret garden? Last spring with the generous help of Jeremy and Amy DeLisle, along with the Antrim 4-H Club and AES fourth graders, our garden was weeded and pruned—a gift that the fourth graders gave back to the school before moving on to GBS. There is still more work to do to revive our special garden into the place it was designed to be. Micky Johnson, Sharon Otterson and Kathy Stacy, former educators at AES, had a vision for this outdoor space in the center of our school. They co-wrote a three-year grant that included a quilting artist, a painted mural and a garden project. The stunning artworks are still on display in the entrance, where AES and the Antrim Rec Department share a space. With the dedication of the AES staff, as well as many community members and businesses, they created a lovely secret garden filled with flowers, trees, benches, artwork, painted rocks and a walking bridge.

The garden has been a place for the school community to gather for lunch, drawing activities, science exploring, snack breaks, building fairy houses, collaborative learning and enjoying a peaceful view from classroom windows. It has needed some TLC, and with continued support from our wonderful PTO, we are giving our garden what it needs to thrive. In addition to painting more colorful rocks in our Eagle Groups last year, and planting some new bulbs, local artists Lisa Hennessy and Arlene Soule have been collaborating with me to create a work of art to hang in our garden to give it color year round.

This fall we began teaching all of the AES students how to make a mosaic with glass tiles. The image of an eagle in flight consists of three panels. The students were so excited to work with the materials! After a demonstration by Lisa,

they each set to work to carefully select colors and shapes to add to the mosaic. Now that each student knows how to use the materials, they will have an opportunity to teach their families at our Literacy Night on December 6. The eagle mosaic will be one of many stations for families to participate in, along with an annual book fair to raise money for special projects and trips.

The mosaic will also be available to work on as a community at Winterfest in February and our AES Annual Spring Festival in May. We hope to have these panels completed to present to the school in June as a way to both give back to the school and teach the students about the impact of gifting a legacy to the place where they spend so many of their days as children. They will be able to come back and see their collaborative work of art on exhibit for years to come. ♦



Photo by Carole Storro

## Antrim Baptist Church

Charlie Boucher, Pastor

Upcoming events at the Antrim Baptist Church:

**Christmas tree sales** on the front lawn, Nov. 25–Dec. 24, Sat. 10–4 p.m., Sun. 12:30–4 p.m.

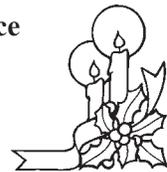
**Free hot dog supper** with ice cream sundaes, followed by the family movie, “The Twelve Dogs of Christmas,” Fri., Dec. 8, 5:30 p.m.

**Free pancake breakfast.** Menu includes plain, blueberry and chocolate chip pancakes, sausage, fresh fruit, orange juice and coffee, Sun., Dec. 17, Jan. 21, & Feb. 18, 8:30–10 a.m.

**Candlelight Christmas Eve Service**

Sun., Dec. 24, 6 p.m.

No Sunday morning worship.



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Merrimack Valley Basketball League, and Lacrosse–New Hampshire Youth Lacrosse Association. Recreation Department staff attend board meetings for all. We also provide early development programs—Little Kickers, Little Stickers, and so on. Ages 4–8 participate in local training and programs, while our older athletes practice locally but travel around the region for games.

While the costs associated with everything, including youth sports teams, continue to rise, our youth sports programs have maintained a relatively low registration fee to allow participation by children from all income brackets. We have also consistently worked with families to roster kids with reduced or waived registration fees. All this is made possible thanks to business sponsors and volunteers. Sponsors for our youth soccer teams this year were Edmunds Ace Hardware, ConVal Martial Arts, Shattuck Paving, McGrath Lumber, A.D. Guislin Construction and JBR Associates. We also benefit from concession sales at our games and are grateful to volunteers who help us out in this way.

We are always looking for volunteers to help us with our sports programs. We need coaches, assistant coaches, referees, and concession helpers or donators of crock-pot foods to sell at games. If you have time, resources, expertise...and want to help, please contact Celeste at 588-3121. It is a great way to stay active and connected to your community.

### UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

**Movies at Town Hall.** **NEW! Movie Matinees:** We are investing in an improved audio system for our free movie program. Our goal is better dialogue sound—a challenge in the big Town Hall! We are optimistic, but are also starting out with classic films in which many of you already know the dialogue. Our Friday Family Night movies are very family-friendly; for the Wednesday Movie Matinees, we are expecting audience members who are able to keep seated and quiet through most of the production. The movies are shown on the second floor of Town Hall, which is serviced by an elevator.

**Wed., Dec. 6, 12:30:** *A Christmas Carol* (1951), starring Alastair Simm. A classic. Come enjoy the fresh buttered popcorn and camaraderie of fellow movie-goers. We use real butter, just like the good ol' days. Doors open at noon.

**Wed., Dec. 20, 12:30:** *It's a Wonderful Life* (1946), starring James Stewart. What a way to spend the last day of fall! Welcome winter with this wonderful film. Doors open at noon.

**Movie Matinees:** First & third Wed., 12:30-3:30; Jan. 10 & 24, Feb. 14 & 28.

**Monthly Friday Night Movies:** Dec. 15, 5:30 & 7:30; Jan. 19, 5:30 & 7:30; Feb. 16, 6:00 & 7:30.

**Winter Vacation Movies:** Wed., Dec. 27, 4:00 & 6:00  
For film titles and time adjustments, check online at [www.antrimnh.org](http://www.antrimnh.org).

**Winter Vacation Open Gym.** Tue. & Thur., Dec. 26 & 28; ages 5 and under, 2:00–3:00; grades K–4, 3:00–4:30;

grades 5–9, 4:30–6:00.

**Ice Rink at Shea Field.** Open as soon as the weather permits! We will have the lights on at the rink, as well as hot chocolate and other concessions, from 6–8 on Fri., Jan. 26; 5–8 on Sat., Jan. 27; and the same times again on the weekend of Feb. 2–3. If there's enough interest, we will hold skating under the lights again during the third week of February. Until the field is fully covered with snow, we ask that you access the rink from the playground side.

**Snowshoeing/Cross Country Skiing.** We will be working on getting a snowshoe and Nordic skiing track set up around Shea Field once it is snow-covered. Look for announcements in mid-January. Please contact Celeste at the Recreation Office if you're interested and want to help.

**Indoor Softball Pitching.** Tues., Dec. 6–Mar. 28, 6-7 p.m.

**BACK! Toddler Playground.** Sat., 9–10 a.m. at the Town Gym, Jan. 13, 20, 27; Mar. 3 & 10. Free for Antrim residents; \$25 for the season for non-residents. Music, balls, mats, slides, rocker ponies, push mowers and bubble machines. It is the best—an indoor playground for **children 3 years and younger** and their adults! For this program to work, we need to be strict about the age limit. Please understand—kids who are 4 and older should not attend this program, even if they have a sibling who matches the age group.

**NEW! Target Archery.** A 4-week program, 1 hour per session, weekdays in January & February at the Town Gym. Cost \$60 per person. More details coming up.

**Yoga** continues at Town Hall on Tue., 6:00–7:15. Jeanine Edmunds has maintained a faithful student population for her class, and we think you should try it! Class is \$42 for 6 weeks, or \$10 for a drop-in.

**Zumba** has returned to Antrim! Mon., 5:30–6:30 at the Town Gym. Lisa Dawes will hold class every Monday except for the Christmas and New Year's Day holidays. Please bring clean gym shoes; we do not allow street shoes on the gym floor. Class is \$5 for drop-ins.

**Pickleball** at the Town Gym, Sat. 3:30–5. In December and January, we will have the gym open and set up for Pickleball every Saturday, except for Dec. 24 and 31. This is a great way to be active and get to know other folks who want to get out and about. We have equipment, expertise and patience to share, so come out and give it a try.

Stay in touch with Antrim Recreation on Facebook, and by checking our website, [www.antrimnh.org](http://www.antrimnh.org), and our bulletin board at Town Hall. You can call us at the office at 588-3121. ♦

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## Antrim Grange

Renee Mercier-Gerritsen  
Master—Antrim Grange #98

### RESTORATION

Antrim Grange has been working hard on fundraising efforts this year to restore the Grange Hall on Clinton Road. As many people in town know, the Grange Hall was the original Meetinghouse of Antrim before the current Town Hall was built. It was built further up Meetinghouse Hill and moved down the hill to its current location. We initially intended to do some smaller fixes, but as estimates for repairs began to come in, we realized that restoring the building was going to be a long, extensive and expensive job to undertake. After Robblee Tree Service donated their time and expertise to remove several trees that were too close to the hall, we learned that the first thing on the repair list was basically starting from the ground.

The Grange foundation is made of granite slabs. As the years have passed, the slabs have slowly moved under the building. In July, when Antrim contractor Andras Lazar began to undertake rebuilding the foundation, he removed the complete interior and side walls of the back of the stage area to make way for an excavator to dig below the floor's support beams. The rear sill and two of the main beams supporting the hall floor needed to be replaced. Now Andras is in the process of slowly lifting the back of the building to be able to access these beams. He removed most of our chimney to make sure it didn't fall on its own during the lifting process; it will be replaced later.

Andrew Cushing from the NH Preservation Alliance has given us enormous support in our efforts, and has even volunteered his time and talent to help us remove, restore and replace our original windows. We hope this ongoing project will be mostly completed before winter hits.

In the spring, we plan to move on to the many other repairs and improvements we are facing: painting, plaster repair, electrical upgrade, improved heating, roof replacement, improved parking, rebuilding the stage, replacing the chimney and—a huge wish—adding well and septic to have a working kitchen and bathroom again. The list is imposing,

but with many hands, we can get this done.

Andrew Cushing has supplied us with information on many grants we can apply for to help defer costs. We're waiting for a response on one so far. We've already had many people come forth with donations of money, services and supplies, and want to thank each and every one of them for this huge show of generosity.

If you would like to donate anything, please feel free to private message us on our Facebook page or call Renee Mercier-Gerritsen at 547-5144 for information. Also contact Renee if you'd like to give a larger tax-deductible donation.

### MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Antrim Grange is looking for new members! We are a family organization—like family to each other. We focus on education, community and legislation, but have a wide range of activities available for every interest. We do various projects during the year including our Penny Sale/Summah Suppah, Meet the Candidates Night, Art Show, Community Awards Night, decorating cookies for the Annual Tree Lighting, participating in the Festival of Trees and serving the December Free Community Supper. We have fun in all we do and try to work together towards achieving all goals.

If you have ever wondered what the Grange is, what we have to offer that may interest you, or you just want to expand your 'family,' please feel free to message us on Facebook or call Renee Mercier-Gerritsen, Master of Antrim Grange, at 547-5144 for more information. We meet the first and third Wednesdays of every month at 7 p.m. at the Grange Hall when there is no snow and at the Town Hall in the winter from first until last snow. ♦

### The People's Service Exchange

CALL Nancy O'Brien • 588-2620

email: [pse@grapevinenh.org](mailto:pse@grapevinenh.org)

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Friday • 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Saturday • 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

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## Lions Club

Steve Ullman, Vice-President

**Vision Screening.** The Lions Club's defining mission is protecting the vision of people around the world. John Conklin writes that locally, the Antrim-Bennington Lions Club does vision screening at several schools in the ConVal District every year. We cover Pierce, Frankestown, Hancock, Greenfield and Antrim Elementary Schools and Great Brook Middle School. We also screen pre-school children at The Grapevine. In the past, we have screened the elementary schools in the fall and the middle school in the spring. But this year we screened all the schools in the fall, which gives us the opportunity to go back in the spring to reach new students or those who were absent on the day we came to their school.

**Christmas Tree Sale.** Bob Edwards announces that the AB Lions will be selling Christmas trees again this year at the Tenney Farm on Route 202. We expect the trees to arrive around Thanksgiving and normally begin selling on the weekend after Thanksgiving. Please look for the large Lions Club Christmas Tree sign. The cost will be \$35 for the standard 6-foot tree and a little bit more for the extra-large ones. The trees come to us from a Vermont grower and historically have been great trees. If you want to purchase a tree during the week, Eric is always happy to accommodate

you. The proceeds support Operation Santa and other Lions Club charities. Thanks to all our loyal supporters who have been buying from us for over twenty years. We will have 100 trees this year so please come early for the best selection. See you at the Tenney Farm and thank you again!

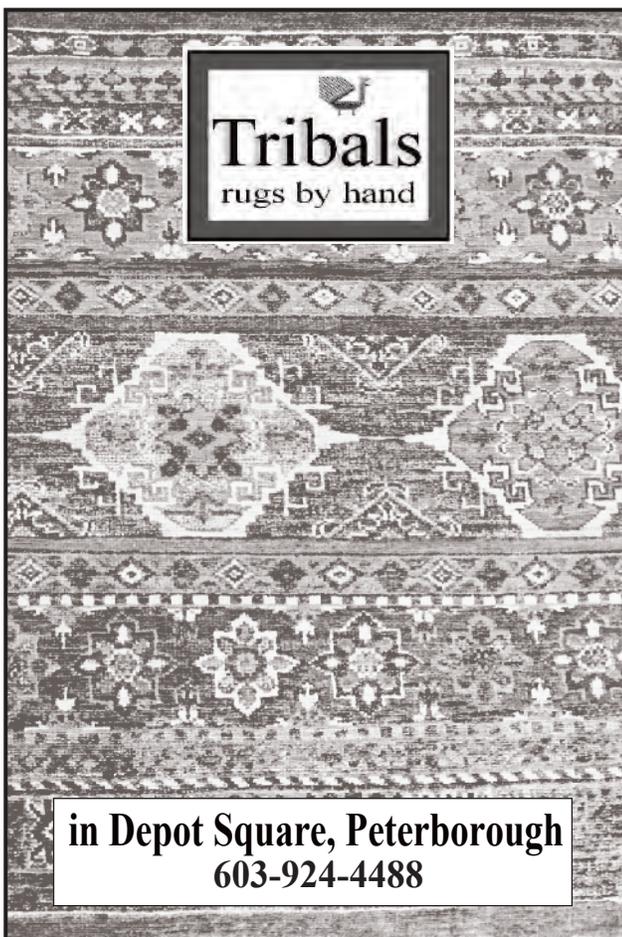
**Antrim Under the Lights at Shea Field.** Rick Wood reports that the AB Lions were looking forward to helping celebrate "Shea Field Under the Lights," an October event that was unfortunately cancelled due to a shortage of soccer teams able to participate. The good news is the AB Lions will work with Antrim Parks and Recreation on a spring date to encourage the town to come out to see Shea Field under the lights. Instead of creating a unique event that may conflict with other schedules, we will attempt to hold the celebration during an event already taking place at the field. Stay tuned for more information.

**Lions Club Speakers.** In August, Kathleen Robbins, RN, devoted member of the AB Lions, skilled substance abuse educator, and a remarkably resilient individual, spoke to us about adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) that shape the developing child. When a child encounters a traumatic event, he or she may undergo stress and fear reactions that disrupt normal maturation. Kathleen suggested several restorative strategies aimed at helping a child cope with adversity and build resilience.

In October, Dr. Ann Forrest, Assistant Superintendent of the ConVal School District, talked to us about the issue of equity in the classroom. She addressed how public schools can provide the services that individual students require.

In November, Dr. Tracy Roettiger enlightened us about medical aspects of vision care.

We Lions are always eager for new members. Please contact Sarah Edwards or me if you want more information about joining our dedicated service organization. ♦



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Campground fifty-five miles away had any camping sites left, so we drove straight there. As we passed by a large bull elk in a statuesque pose in the Madison River, Frank pouted and I was sure I heard Big Bertha, his 600-mm camera lens, cry out in pain, but a campsite had to come first. We don't know that we got the last available spot in Yellowstone, but we do know that people who pulled in shortly after us didn't find one.

There were bear claw marks on one of the trees in our campsite, and we took great care to put anything with a scent into the bear-proof storage boxes. Before sunrise one morning I awoke with a pounding heart to loud crashes of metal. Was it a bear in the storage box? A truck crash on the main road? Gunfire? The volcano erupting? No...the dumpsters at the campground ranger station were being emptied.

A few nights later we began to realize why the tent had been on an "end-of-the-season" sale. In the middle of one rainy night I noticed that the rain was beginning to slide off the tent in big patches, and we awoke to a two-inch coating of snow. The snow accentuated the scent of ponderosa and spruce, and a pair of robins cheerily greeted us on the picnic table, but strangely, the campground had thinned out that night. When the temperature dropped to nineteen degrees the next night, we both put on all the clothes we had and turned pages with gloves on while reading in the tent. But the stars were awesome as I walked to the outhouse on that crystal clear night while listening to four competing bugling bull elk.

"Bugling" is a euphemistic term for elk calls. While some of them were indeed beautifully musical, others sounded more like screaming babies or squeaking outhouse doors. In the cool weather, we could see their moist breath condense as they blew out at the end of a bugle. Evidently, bull elk lose weight during the rut because they work so hard to keep control of their harems. We watched one 6 x 6-point bull herding 31 cows, a 7 x 7-point bull with 45, and a 1 x 1-point bull taking it easy with 5.

The bison rut was also under way, and the dynamics of what appeared to be resting herds were fascinating to watch.

The dominant bulls roamed around sniffing cows and threatening other bulls, but generally avoided serious conflict. However, I watched one young bull jump to his feet, let out a roar of sorts, and head straight for the dominant bull in a distant group. The dominant bull took this threat seriously and strode over to meet the youngster with his head down. They butted heads a few times before the young bull turned and trotted back to his group of young males. The dominant bull then worked his way nudging and sniffing through his entire herd as if to reaffirm that he was in charge.

In Yellowstone, you know something's happening if you see a lineup of big camera lenses and spotting scopes. We joined a crowd watching a large grizzly bear feeding on and then guarding an elk carcass in the Yellowstone River, with a wolf and her pups lurking nearby. People who got there earlier said that the wolves had taken the elk down and the grizzly had driven them from it. The wolf pups wanted to get back to the carcass and their mother was trying to keep them from getting too close.

We were treated to a herd of bighorn sheep climbing on rocks right beside the road, as well as mountain goats scrambling high up on steep cliffs. On one hilltop hike, I noticed a bison approaching quietly only twenty feet off the trail. The couple walking in front of me hadn't noticed it at all. Another day, traffic came to a stop to wait for a bison herd to cross a bridge over the Yellowstone River. I guess they preferred that route to the nearby "Buffalo Ford" where they would have had to get their feet wet. I had hopes of climbing Mount Washburn, but decided not to push my luck when park rangers warned about bear activity on the trail and recommended hiking in groups of three or more. Frank was determined to get a photo of an iridescent mountain bluebird, but they seemed equally determined to disappear whenever he and Big Bertha showed up. The geysers, fumaroles, mud pots and other thermal features form a stunningly surreal landscape colored by organisms that can survive near-boil-

—continued on page 28

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ing water temperatures. The rising sulfurous mists made us think we were walking in the primordial soup. One cold rainy day on a geyser walk, we met a friendly couple from Boston. They said they knew one person from Antrim, and asked if we knew Ruth Benedict!

After almost a week in Yellowstone, we began to meander home by heading out the remote northeast corner of the park, where we found the highway we intended to take closed. While we had little doubt that it would have been faster to turn around and exit the park a different way, we decided to see if we could get as far as another option I spotted on the map, and found the dramatic canyon of the Clark's Fork of the Yellowstone River and Dead Indian Pass, where the road was worrisomely narrow in several places due to recent rock slides. We emerged onto the Wyoming high plain north of Cody and headed back into Montana.

Some of the towns scattered across eastern Montana and North Dakota allow camping in municipal parks at very reasonable rates. In Roundup, we pitched our tent in the fairgrounds on the banks of the Musselshell River. A local resident stopped to philosophize, but 45 minutes later, when he started telling us how his lost reading glasses entered a fourth dimension when he couldn't find them, we told him we re-

ally needed to cook our dinner before it got any darker. In the morning, we had a great breakfast at the local café before heading north to a series of National Wildlife Refuges. We made an unscheduled stop at the Charles M. Russell NWR on the Missouri River, not having any idea that it is home to a spectacular elk viewing area, where we spent hours observing the clashes of the bull elk in rut. One bull defended a harem of 52 cows. Another seemed intent on decorating his rack with tall marsh grasses. We watched numerous magnificent bulls trying to steal cows from each other, while the cows generally did their best to ignore them. We finally tore ourselves away, and watched the sun set over the water at Bowdoin NWR,



Party elk in Charles M. Russell NWR.

Photo by Frank Gorga

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where we saw migrating shorebirds and rare sharp-tailed grouse. Big Bertha got a workout with several actively-feeding avocets sweeping their upcurved bills through the shallow water. That night we camped under the cottonwoods in a bend of the Milk River in a park in the City of Malta, population just under 2000. We headed east along the Missouri River and then north to Medicine Lake NWR, another great spot for migrating wildfowl and prairie birds. We got distracted by a peregrine falcon and somehow ended up out of the Refuge on roads not recognized as such by the GPS and sometimes questioned by the car. Eventually, we reemerged into known territory and spent the night as the sole residents of Brush Lake State Park before heading on east into North Dakota.

To be continued ...

The *Limrik* is privately published for, by, and about the people of Antrim. It does not receive any town funds and is entirely supported by subscriptions and advertising revenue.

## Where in Antrim?

It seems we aren't the only ones who've been impressed by the windthrow lying over Great Brook just off of Gregg Lake Road. We received correct responses from Therese Wood (who won the Dunkin Donuts gift certificate), Elizabeth Mosher, Briar Bethel, Sue White, Kathy Stacy, Linda Bryer and Steve Brzozowski. Thank you everyone for participating!

The first person to correctly identify the site where this photo was taken will receive a \$25 gift certificate for goods from Deer Meadow Homestead. Photo by Frank Gorga.



# The Grapevine

Melissa Gallagher

We have much to celebrate as we reflect on twenty years of service to our community. We continue to offer quality programs while seeking new ways to provide support. We truly value your feedback; many of our initiatives begin by responding to community needs. Please email me with your ideas at [melissag@grapevინeh.org](mailto: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!

A very special thank you... to **Bantam Grill** of Peterborough. For the third year in a row, Bantam has sponsored the Beast Master's Classic dinner, with all of the proceeds benefiting The Grapevine. Owner Harris Welden and his entire staff, especially Russell Novotny and Morgan Jadis, worked for many months to prepare for this event, which raised **\$8200!** We are incredibly grateful. Thanks also to **Henniker Brewing Company**, **Vinilandia Wines**, musicians **Brad Faucher and Jeff Costello** and Grapevine Board member **Rose Novotny**.

Join us in welcoming **Amanda McCarthy** to our Before and After School Club staff and **Monica Steele** to administrative support.

## PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Our **Community Tool Shed** is complete and it's time to start filling it up! We've developed a wish list for specific tools. If you have something to offer, contact coordinators Glenn Stan at [glennstan24@gmail.com](mailto:glennstan24@gmail.com) or 562-5545 or Rick Edmunds at [athiker@tds.net](mailto:athiker@tds.net) or 588-6565. *Please do not drop off any tools without speaking to Rick or Glenn first.* Stay tuned for further details on our Tool Shed opening!

**Snow Families Outdoor Play**, Sat., Feb. 3, 10–noon at The Grapevine. We will be hosting a fun gathering for families to create snow(man) families and bird feeders, snowshoes and enjoy warm treats. There is no fee, but if you would like to contribute by way of cocoa, coffee, marshmallows, supplies, or help planning, contact Lisa Hennessy.

**Guiding Good Choices**. This nationally-recognized workshop teaches parents of children aged 9-14 effective management and communication skills to help reduce children's risk for using alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. The 5-session program will be offered in early 2018, and is generously sponsored by Bank of New Hampshire. Pizza is provided and childcare is available. Call for more information.

**Grandparents Parenting Grandchildren**. Parenting educators Carol Lunan and Wendy Hill co-facilitate free monthly discussions on topics such as advocacy, legal issues, supporting children who have experienced trauma and speaking on behalf of all children. Call Carol for more information.

**Children's Programs**. Better Beginnings playgroups and parent groups, Mon., Tues., Thurs., 9:30–11:30; The Learning Vine parent co-op preschool, for children ages 3 to 5, Mon., Wed., Fri., 9–11:30; Better Beginnings for Babies, Wed., 10–11:30. Call Carol for more information.

**Tax Preparation**. IRS-certified tax preparer Larry Schwartz is providing free tax preparation on Monday afternoons by appointment from Jan. 22–Apr. 16. All returns will be filed electronically. Call The Grapevine now to schedule your appointment, as slots fill quickly.

**Getting the wood IN AND OUT!** People have been very generous with donating wood. We are only accepting cut, split and seasoned hardwood at this time. If you are able to help deliver to neighbors who find themselves suddenly in need, give us a call.

**The People's Service Exchange**. Do you have a skill or talent that you would like to share with others? Would you like to receive a service or learn a skill? The PSE is a time-banking project in which the currency is time; 1 Hour of Service = 1 Time Dollar. The PSE—building community, one relationship at a time—[www.pse-nh.org](http://www.pse-nh.org). Find out more by talking with Nancy O'Brien.

**Before and After School Clubs** still have some space. The programs operate at AES, Before School, 6:45–8:20 a.m. and After School, 3:15–5:30 p.m., and include social time, homework help, board games, Legos, free and creative play and activities in and outside the gym. Contact Lisa Hennessy at [basc@grapevინeh.org](mailto:basc@grapevინeh.org) or call 588-2620.

**Strong Living Senior Exercise**, Tue. & Fri., 1:30. Are you 60 or older and looking for a local, affordable, friendly way to maintain and increase your strength, balance and independence? Give us a call.

## 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

## THANK YOU...

to the many people who supported The Grapevine in so many ways over the fall, including the **local businesses, families and shoppers** who gave to our Online Auction; the **Antrim-Bennington Lions Club** for painting the front and rear of the building, as well as performing vision screening for children in our programs; **Glenn Stan and the Steering Committee members** for planning and building our Community Tool Shed; **Sam Harding, Jim Craig, Steve Craig, John Conklin, and Paul Knight** for work on facilities along with our own facility committee members **Ben Pratt, Rick Edmunds and Tom Badgley; Jeanne Baker and Carol Carnes** for backpacks filled with school supplies for families in need and books for our children's programs; **John McGurty of McGurty Maintenance** for cleaning the carpets; **Mike's Towing of Bennington** for our Home & Harvest float trailer and driver; **Amy Markus and Hazel Gershfield** for apples;

all our generous donors of paper goods—please keep them rolling in; **DeeAnn Dubois** for coordinating the Terracycle Campaign; **Beth Kelly** for auction support; **Shaun Hugron and Lisa Hennessy** for firewood delivery; **Grapevine families** who helped move and stack wood and donated snacks; **Grapevine staff and board** who always go above and beyond their normal duties and volunteer for needed projects, such as painting, wood stacking, and garden maintenance!

The Grapevine is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit family and community resource center located at 4 Aiken Street in Antrim. For more information, call 588-2620, email [info@grapevinenh.org](mailto:info@grapevinenh.org) or visit [www.grapevinenh.org](http://www.grapevinenh.org). We gratefully accept donations, which are tax-deductible. Please make your contribution online at our website or your check payable to The Grapevine and mail it to us at PO Box 637, Antrim 03440. Don't forget to LIKE and follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/grapevinenh.org](http://www.facebook.com/grapevinenh.org)! ♦

## Avenue A

Jacqueline Roland, Coordinator

At Avenue A, volunteers work behind the scenes to make our programs happen. This quarter we're highlighting some of the ways that volunteers bring the Teen Center to life...

We kicked off the school year with a clothing day. Community members bustled through, dropping off clothes and helping to set up, while teens stopped by to get free gently-used clothes. We're planning another clothing day this winter!

In September, our Roller Skating Classes, in partnership with the Monadnock Roller Derby, got teens moving and building confidence. Jocelynn Drew taught the classes every week, and we had a great gym to practice in thanks to GBS.

This fall our High School Creative Writing Club published "I need to see this on paper," their anthology of poetry and prose. Cynthia West, our long-time volunteer, gave so much energy to this effort! The project was made possible by a grant from Bank of New Hampshire, a generous donation from Monadnock Paper Mills, and funding from Staff Development for Educators and Yankee Publishing. Our Writing Club is also now supported by the NH State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts! To purchase an anthology contact us.

Teens are having a blast at our Tabletop Game Club! Reading game manuals and enthusiastically participating, John Anderson, Mark Murdough, and Steve MacDonald make this program happen.

Our pick-up basketball program brought in over twenty teens this fall (with gym space provided by Antrim Rec). Josh Teed volunteered to coach the boys, and parents like Tracy Kinney stepped in to help.

With thirty teens participating, our afterschool club for middle schoolers is busy! Ted Brown stops by every week, bringing popcorn and wearing a smile. Friday Open Hours are always bustling with activity... In the midst of it you can

find Rick Wood, Sue Conklin, or Barbara Roland maintaining order.

Our interns from New England College, Sonja, Justin, Alexandra, Joe, Lila, and Marion, are already planning new art workshops for winter. We've loved having them back this fall!

We always need new volunteers! To get involved contact [avenuea@grapevinenh.org](mailto:avenuea@grapevinenh.org).

### ONGOING PROGRAMS:

**Tabletop Game Club**—Grades 6–12, Mon., 5:30–8 p.m.

**Middle School Writers' Society**—Tue., 2:15–4:15 p.m., starting Nov. 28

**Creative Writing Club**—Grades 9–12. Check Facebook for Open Write Night info.

**Avenue A Club**—Grades 5–8, Wed., 2:15–4:15 p.m. Led by Arlene Soule.

**Art at the Avenue**—Grades 5–12, once a month on Thursdays.

**Open Hours**—Ages 13–18, Fri., 6:30–9 p.m.

**Open Mics**—Grades 8–12, once a month on Saturdays.

*Al-Anon meets Wednesdays at 6 p.m.*

*AA meets Sundays at 6 p.m.*

**The Vine Story Hour Fundraiser**—"Battle Scars"—Feb. 15, 7 p.m.

**Please join us in thanking other folks and businesses who helped Avenue A this season...** Kara Penny, Antrim Presbyterian Church, Stephanie Mackesy, Bonnie and Chris Wade, Eva Ruutopold, Tom Griggs, Marcia Ullman, Sebastian Lockwood, Nanette Perrotte, Leaf Seligman, Virginia Dickinson, Scott McGovern, Victoria Burnham, Tony and Kizzy Bailey, Tabitha Momenee, The GBS Morning Show, Avenue A Club parents, our Vine storytellers, The Antrim-Bennington Lions Club, Hillsborough County Gleaners, Antrim Home & Harvest, Hancock Old Home Days, The Hancock Library, The Tuttle Library, The River Center, Antrim Marketplace, The Toadstool Bookshop, ReMarkable Antiques, Target, Walmart, and Price Chopper. ♦

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