

Monadnock Paper Mills Celebrates 200 Years of Continuous Operation

Joan Gorga

Monadnock Paper Mills, located just over the Antrim line in Bennington and the oldest continuously operating paper mill in the United States, is celebrating 200 years of operation this year. How did the mill get started here in the Contoocook Valley and how have they managed to survive when many other paper mills have been forced to halt production?

Scots-Irish settlers, encouraged to populate the colonies of the New World, brought with them flax seeds to grow, spin and weave into linen cloth. They found conditions ideal for flax culture in the areas surrounding the Merrimack River, and moved into the Contoocook Valley as the Society Land towns began to be granted (Francestown in 1772, Deering in 1774, Antrim in 1779 and Greenfield in 1791). A variety of mills grew up in a cluster known as Factory Village in what is now Bennington (which finally formally incorporated in 1842) along the “Great Falls” of the Contoocook, where the river drops more than 75 feet over less than a mile.

Monadnock Paper Mills was not the first paper mill in New Hampshire. Early paper mills were also established in Alstead and Peterborough, but apparently neither of these lasted more than a decade. Monadnock Paper Mills grew out

of what was originally a grist and sawmill operated by Joseph Putnam. The mills were bought by Moody Butler in 1819, as New Hampshire and the rest of the country began to recover from the hardship caused by the War of 1812, during which the British cut off supplies of many manufactured items like paper. With an abundance of flax available from neighboring farms and a plentiful supply of clean water, Butler began to produce handmade paper from flax, and by 1828, the Bennington Paper Mills was thriving. Bleached linen rags, which produced whiter paper, gradually replaced flax as the raw material, and eventually a scarcity of linen led to the use of pulpwood for paper-making. In 1832, the mill was sold to John Flagg, a Butler relative, who was probably the first to make paper by machine, with writing paper and blank books

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Ben Pratt, Marguerite Roberts and Charles Butterfield relax in the Presbyterian Church sanctuary after sharing their remembrances of World War II in a program jointly sponsored by the Antrim Area Senior Center and the Antrim Historical Society. Photo by Pauline Robertson.

Antrim Wind Begins Operation

Joan Gorga

According to the US Energy Information Administration (EIA), 17.1% of the power generated in the US came from renewable sources in 2018, with 6.6% coming from wind. In a 2016 report, EIA reported that 7% of the total world power generation came from non-hydropower renewables and forecast that by 2040 that number would rise to 15%. New Hampshire obtained more of its power from wind than from coal in 2016 and 2017, but in 2018 coal again outpaced wind.

Locally, trees were cleared, blasting shook northwest Antrim well into winter, load after load of concrete arrived, traffic was slowed from Portsmouth to Antrim along Routes 101 and 202 as 120-foot tower sections arrived by truck and, early this summer, nine towers began to appear along the Willard Mountain–Tuttle Hill ridge. The last

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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 mailing address in Antrim. The *Limrik* does not receive any town funds and is supported entirely by subscription and advertising revenue.

— SUBSCRIPTIONS —

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

Subscriptions
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PO Box 84
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— ADVERTISING RATES —

Half Page (Back Page)	\$75 per issue
Half Page (Inside Page)	\$65 per issue
Quarter Page	\$45 per issue
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.

— SUBMISSIONS —

The *Limrik* welcomes submissions of articles, drawings, photographs, news and calendar items by, for and about the people of Antrim. Submission deadlines are February 10, May 10, August 10, and November 10. Submissions should be no more than 1500 words in length and should be submitted in digital form as a Microsoft Word-compatible document attached to an email. Submissions should be sent by email to Joan Gorga at: editor@antrimlimrik.org. Call 588-2569 for more information or to discuss ideas.

— LETTERS TO THE EDITOR —

The *Limrik* accepts letters to the editor of maximum length of 250 words. Publication is subject to the Editor's discretion. Email letters to Joan Gorga at: editor@antrimlimrik.org.

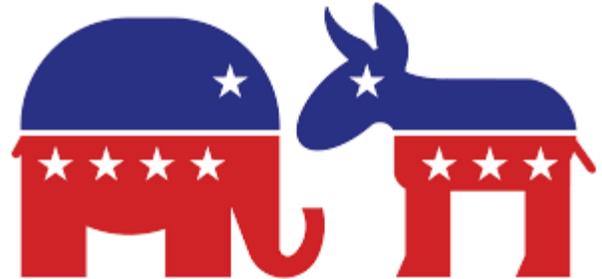
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www.antrimlimrik.org

Presidential Primary 2020

Diane Chauncey, Town Clerk

Will you vote as a Republican or a Democrat? **Ninety days** before the Presidential Primary (date not yet set) will be the last day to change party affiliation. Not sure of your affiliation (e.g., you are Undeclared, but did you return to Undeclared after voting in the last Primary???) Don't be disappointed on Presidential Primary Day. ♦



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.

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Select Board Update

Bob Edwards

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:

As we end the 3rd quarter of the year, many initiatives undertaken earlier this year will be completed before year-end 2019.

Many are aware that our Highway Dept is completing substantial and much needed repairs and improvements to drainage, road stabilization and flood control management on portions of Pleasant Street as well as the application of new pavement. Upon completion, the driving experience will be greatly enhanced. Our Peace Bridge leading to and from Memorial Park has received fabricated railing support to accommodate safe pedestrian access for all. Other town gravel roads are planned to receive shoulder and drainage improvements this fall for improved storm water management that is designed to improve sensitive area protection in the vicinity of Gregg Lake and other parts of town. The Department is prioritizing its work schedule to complete as many improvements as possible before the weather changes. The Department also has been completing moisture control improvements to our town gym before the floor is sanded and refinished during August. The intent is to extend the life of the floor for 7–10 years before a replacement may be needed.

WEST STREET BRIDGE REPLACEMENT:

The construction is continuing nicely with this initiative. The Select Board met recently with Quantum Construction Consultants, and representatives from Water & Sewer and the Highway Department to address an unanticipated water line challenge that presented itself during this process. By working together collaboratively, we resolved the issue for the long-term and were able to win approval from NH DOT to support 80% of the unanticipated cost. The bridge is on schedule to reach completion later this fall.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

The Select Board recently welcomed Ethan N. Christenson as Antrim's newest police officer. Ethan comes to us from the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office and is well acquainted with our police department. We also acknowledge the departure and good service of Officer Tom Horne who recently left Antrim to pursue other career opportunities. We very much look forward to Ethan joining our dedicated police department and thank Tom for all his past dedication and involvement with our community.

TOWN REVENUE:

As reported last quarter, the Select Board has been carefully reviewing and deciding what properties that have been tax decided to the Town are appropriate for auction in an effort to collect taxes to help support the Town's operating budget. As a result of auctions conducted on December 1, 2018 and June 15, 2019, the Town has realized approximately \$160,000.

The Select Board will continue to conduct auctions of tax decided properties when appropriate and after careful deliberation.

ANTRIM WIND ENERGY, LLC –WIND FARM

Representatives from Antrim Level, LLC, along with construction company representatives met with the Select Board at a public meeting on July 29 to provide a construction and scheduling update. Their report noted that in spite of earlier weather challenges, the construction, turbine placement, sub-station and their Operations and Maintenance building completion are on schedule. Their anticipated Commercial Operation Date remains August 30, 2019. As defined in the PILOT Agreement, payment from the wind farm operation during the remainder of 2019 will be approximately \$150,000. The first full year PILOT payment is scheduled for calendar year 2020.

CIP & BUDGET PROCESS:

Fall seems to signal the coming of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) process under the Planning Board's oversight where the Committee takes a 6 year forward look for larger capital expenditures for all departments. Once approved by the Planning Board, the Plan is presented to the Select Board for review, decisions, and planning for funding to our Town's Capital Reserve Funds. This process works well as financial suggestions by the Committee provides considerable thought for discussion by the Select Board during its own budget process that continues through mid-January in preparation for the Town's budget hearing and town meeting.

The Select Board wants to acknowledge and thank all departments for their collaborative work spirit. Antrim has witnessed several recent difficult incidents that have required emergency responses. In some cases, all departments have played some level of support with ensuring that the outcome achieved was the best possible under the circumstances.

Your Select Board always welcomes constructive and informed ideas and opinions. Enjoy a fun and safe fall season.



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set of blades was hoisted into place on August 1 by a crane that was brought in on twenty trucks and assembled on site. Careful observers could see one or two sets of blades moving slowly as they were tested.

In March, Antrim Wind Energy, LLC, was acquired by TransAlta Corporation, an electricity power generator and wholesale marketing company headquartered in Calgary, Alberta. I asked Anik Whittom, Manager of Wind and Solar Operations at TransAlta, if she would answer a few questions to introduce TransAlta to the Town of Antrim:



Turbine 3 peeks over Tuttle Hill. Photo by Frank Gorga.

JG: I see you're based on the Gaspé Peninsula in Quebec—what operations does TransAlta have in eastern Canada and New England, and where else does it operate?

AW: I am based in Quebec at one of TransAlta's oldest wind farms in operation in Canada, Le Nordais, commissioned in 1999. I have been in the wind business since 1999 and have held various roles in operations throughout my career.

TransAlta has a total of twenty-five wind farms (943 wind turbines) and five solar sites, aggregating 1,545 megawatts across nine regions: Alberta, Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick in Canada and Wyoming, Minnesota, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts in the United States. For more information on TransAlta facilities and locations, visit our website at <https://www.transalta.com/our-operations/>.

JG: What future do you see for wind energy in Canada, in the US, and in the world?

AW: TransAlta owns, operates and develops a diverse fleet of electrical power generation assets in Canada, the US and Western Australia, including wind generation. TransAlta was an early entrant into industrial scale wind generation in Canada and continues to grow its fleet. As a company, TransAlta sees wind generation as an important part of the electricity mix going forward.

JG: How long has TransAlta been involved in wind projects?

AW: TransAlta is one of the largest wind generators in Canada and has a long history in wind, having owned and operated the first industrial scale wind facility in Canada, Cowley Ridge, which was commissioned in 1993 and operated for 23 years before being decommissioned in 2016. We began our first wind operation in the United States in Evanston, Wyoming, in 2003.

JG: Why choose wind energy over solar, hydro or geothermal?

AW: TransAlta pursues strategic growth opportunities through the acquisition of new facilities, and various fuel types are considered during our growth projects. TransAlta also operates in the hydro and solar industry. A list of our facilities in these fuel types can be found on our website.

JG: What changes have been made in turbine design since the earliest wind projects?

AW: The Antrim site consists of nine Siemens Gamesa wind turbines with a power generating capacity of 3.2 MWh each. Wind turbine design has developed greatly since its beginnings and is now a very well-understood process. The selected turbine technology for the Antrim wind project has been vigorously tested and has a great track record. The turbines are direct drive and are equipped with improved airfoiled blades, which control aerodynamic sound emission and increase power production efficiency compared to older models. What this means is that using this new technology, the same amount of power production is achieved with a smaller number of turbines, thus minimizing the project's impacts and footprint.

JG: What led TransAlta to purchase Antrim Wind?

AW: Growing our US renewables business is a key component of TransAlta's current growth strategy, and we are always working to add high-quality renewables projects and assets to our fleet. The Antrim Wind Energy asset fit with our investment criteria and led us to pursue this opportunity. TransAlta is excited to bring our experience in construction and operations to Antrim.

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Antrim Historical Society

Bill Nichols and Kathi Wasserloos

The Antrim Historical Society invites you to take the stairs (*or an elevator*) to the second floor of the Tuttle Library. If you thought that our museum might be filled with musty old shelves full of boring ‘stuff,’ think again!

- We have been busy creating a room full of interesting exhibits, including more recent ‘stuff’ like Wayno’s Road Race and the Rynborn Blues Bash.
- We dug into our archives to give folks a feel for what life in Antrim was like one hundred years ago.
- We have a flag that hung over Main Street as volunteers marched beneath it on their way to fight in the Civil War!
- For those who can recall registering a vehicle at Martin Nichol’s home, we have brought his old desk to life with some of his memorabilia.
- There was a time when Antrim doctors made house calls, and we have photos and interesting items from those years.
- And did you know that a resident of Antrim served as Governor of New Hampshire? Well, come on in and view a new exhibit on David H. Goodell.

You will find a member working there most afternoons and on Saturday mornings during the summer...and don’t forget—the library is a *cool* spot to be on a hot afternoon.

We also have a variety of programs coming up in the next few months. On Saturday during Home & Harvest, we will hold our annual Apple Crisp Social on the lawn of the Maplehurst Inn, and on Sunday join us for a Historical Nature Hike in Antrim Center with members of the Conservation Commission. Sign up for the hike at the Apple Crisp Social table.

There has been talk of a program in October regarding the haunted happenings of Antrim’s past. Look for more information in the coming weeks.

Please join us on Sunday, November 17, as Greenfield resident and local train historian Dale Russell brings his knowledge, photos and artifacts on trains of the past, to the vestry of the Presbyterian Church.

On December 8, during the Festival of Trees, enjoy the music of the Hancock Bell Ringers as they ring in the Christmas season.

Like any volunteer organization, we welcome new members. We have individual and family memberships available. So, what have you got to lose? We would love to have you visit us! ♦

Thank you ...

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

Antrim’s New Home & Harvest Lineup

Rick Davis

This year’s Home & Harvest Festival will be held on Friday and Saturday, September 13 and 14, with a rain date of September 21.

Brand new this year is the up-and-coming sport of pickleball—fun for all ages. We will be holding FREE pickleball lessons on Friday from 7–9 p.m. at the Town Gym. Clean sneakers are required. Then on Saturday an exhibition tournament for all ages will be held from 2–5 p.m. Get more info at Rick and Diane’s or our website.

Also Friday at Shea Field will be Nerf ball wars for the kids from 5:30–9:30 p.m. and a FREE ice cream social starting at 5 p.m. at Town Hall while you listen to the Karaoke challenge.

Saturday is our big day with crafters up and down Main Street—FREE fun and games and the parade starts at 11:30. Not too late to get your float into the parade! The day finishes off at Tenney Farm with a cookout, new music by CK and the Rising Tide band and fireworks by Atlas at 8.

Also new this year on Sunday, an “Old Antrim Centre” Historical Nature Hike, cosponsored by the Antrim Historical Society and the Antrim Conservation Commission, meets at the parking lot at At The Cross Church at 2 p.m.

Again we are thankful for all our sponsors and volunteers who continue to make this a free and fun event for the whole community. Home & Harvest—“Nothing Like It.” ♦



A collection of recent poems by former Antrim resident and longtime *Limrik* contributor Charles Butterfield, entitled *Morning Watch*, is due to be published by Finishing Line Press in October. You can pre-order the book at the publisher’s website.

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the main products. In 1865, a pulp mill was built on the property, and in 1870, the railroad was extended to the paper mill.

In 1880, the Pierce family took over operation and the mill was renamed Monadnock Paper Mills. Colonel Arthur Pierce came to work in the mill in 1900 and purchased it in 1904. He constructed a new brick mill building, greatly expanded the mill capacity and installed every available improvement in the manufacturing process. By 1922, he had led the acquisition of dams and hydropower facilities to supply enough energy to run the mill and serve as backup electrical power for the town of Bennington. Colonel Pierce also took a great interest in the town and donated money to build a school, now known as Pierce School. He also had the small white office building replaced with the Colonial-revival brick building that he felt better matched the expanding brick mill complex. (I believe Caughey & Pratt of Antrim built that structure in 1923, and also participated in dam construction.)

In 1948, Gilbert Verney bought the entire properties of Monadnock Paper Mills from the Pierce estate. Gilbert Verney recognized that the market for paper was changing, and began to carve out a niche for Monadnock Paper Mills in specialty papers. His son Richard has continued that process, and now Monadnock Paper Mills produces more than 250 different kinds of paper—from filtration papers to abrasive backings to specialty chart papers that need to be stable under extremes of temperature and humidity, to beadboard and wallboard tape, to advertising signage and high-end packaging papers. The basic equipment hasn't changed too much recently, but they have added extensive monitoring for quality control. Monadnock Paper Mills doesn't make pulp—they buy it on the open market, which means they are subject to price swings—but they say some of the best fiber for making paper comes from New England.

Gilbert and Richard Verney also recognized the importance of ecological responsibility. Even before the US Environmental Protection Agency set standards for treating effluent, Monadnock Paper Mills financed the construction of a wastewater treatment facility in 1973–74. The United Paperworkers International Union, Local #42, presented Monadnock Paper Mills with the ecology flag for this accomplishment. The wastewater treatment plant continues to return water to the river cleaner than it comes out. In 1990, the Monadnock Paper Mills developed a groundwater well to reduce the burden on the river; in 1991, Powder Mill Pond, the holding basin for the Mills' hydroelectric power, was designated as a NH Fish & Game Wildlife Management Area; and in 1998, the Mills received the first Governor's Award for Pollution Prevention. By 1999, they had reduced their fresh water consumption by half over ten years. And in 2001, they reached their goal of recycling 100% of the short paper fiber waste as compost for agriculture.

A few years later, the Mills gained Forest Stewardship Council certification, which ensures that products come from responsibly managed forests that provide environmental, social and economic benefits, and they have continued to achieve further environmental goals and receive awards and recognition for their efforts. In 2013, they reached the point at which their entire portfolio was manufactured carbon neutral using 100% renewable electricity. Their environmental position helps with companies choosing to do business with them. Customers want to know the chain of custody of forest products, even with recycled products, to ensure that the products come from responsibly managed forests.

With the current awakening about the dangers posed by accumulating plastic waste, Monadnock Paper Mills has its sights set on designing and manufacturing recyclable paper products to reduce the accumulation of single-use plastics, in areas as diverse as gift cards, hang tags for garments, grocery store pricing signage and fiber-free peel medical packaging. They are also looking ahead by manufacturing paper from agricultural waste fibers, such as hemp, shredded coffee bean bags and leftover fuzz around cotton seeds (cotton linter).

There are currently about 175 people working at Monadnock Paper Mills, including a wide variety of craftsmen, engineers, accountants, PhDs, chemists and sales people. As Lisa Berghaus, Director of Communications, says, "A lot goes on." Although Richard Verney has at times had to make tough decisions in order to keep the Mills competitive in the face of changing markets, he has also been extraordinarily generous to the town and supports many area organizations. Monadnock Paper Mills remains not only the largest employer in Bennington, but also a leader in ecological responsibility and an important resource to our region. The Mills will be offering community tours as part of their 200th anniversary celebration, and invite you to see what's new in the world of specialty paper manufacturing. Send them an email to info@mpm.com, put Tour in the subject line and let them know how many would like a tour (for safety reasons no children under 12 are permitted on the manufacturing floor). ♦



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Fundraisers, Festivals, and Friends!

News from Avenue A

Jacqueline Roland

Teen centers are not common in rural areas—we are grateful to have Avenue A as an outlet for local teens because of your support! Our New Hampshire Gives fundraising campaign was a great example of this. Perhaps you saw the big yellow banner in front of our Center in early June? We participated in this statewide online day of giving to raise funds to replace a non-renewable grant we received last year.

Together we raised \$5,000 to support our programs for local youth! This was truly a community effort. Hunter Anderson made an amazing video about our Center, with assistance from John Anderson, our neighbor at Ragdoll Studio. (If you haven't seen it yet, you can find it on our Avenue A Teen Center YouTube channel.) In the weeks leading up to NH Gives, our teens worked diligently to spread the word! Our writing clubs created hundreds of free poem scrolls with info about the fundraiser. They handed these out at the Children and the Arts Festival and The Broke Arts Fair. For the kick-off of our campaign, Tenney Farm generously allowed our teens to have an Avenue A table at the Farm Stand!

On Giving Day, The Antrim Police Association got things going with a \$100 challenge donation, and an anonymous

local donor provided a 10-cent match for every dollar raised. Local photographers Hunter Anderson and Carly Storro gave away two portrait sessions to folks who supported our campaign. And, fifteen of our amazing parents, board members and volunteers served as Fundraising Champions—raising support for us through their social media accounts. The Great Brook Vet Clinic and countless community members (you!) stepped up to help us reach our goal and spread the word.

It was an exciting start to summer. But, we didn't stop there! Over the last few months, our teens have been busy filmmaking, cooking, writing, practicing yoga, painting, playing basketball, woodworking, 3D printing, making music, and science-experimenting. Over forty volunteers worked tirelessly to make these summer programs happen!

We've enjoyed seeing our friends at the Monadnock Roller Derby during their summer Home Bouts—they generously donated proceeds from their Chuck-A-Wheel competition to Avenue A. At our Community Open Mic in July, we made new friends with teens from Friends Forever International's Israel team. Inspired by what they saw here, the FFI team started a Community Open Mic of their own when they returned to Israel!

We're looking forward to having Teen Center booths at Hancock's Old Home Day and Antrim's Home and Harvest Festival. Our next Community Open Mic will be the third Saturday in September, and we're also having a Vine Story Hour that month too! Follow us on Facebook for updates about our fall events and our back-to-school program schedule.

If you'd like to get involved with our Center, please contact Jacqueline at avenuea@grapevინeh.org or by calling The Grapevine Office at (603) 588-2620. ♦



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Avenue A teens offer poem scrolls and information about the NH Gives fundraiser at Tenney Farm. Photo by Jacqueline Roland.



Turbines 9, 8 and 7 tower above the Antrim Town Beach. Photo by Frank Gorga.

JG: Where were the turbines built and how were they shipped?

AW: Wind turbines consist of three major components—nacelles, tower sections and blades. The components that make up the Antrim site came from Denmark, Spain and Ontario. The nacelles and the towers arrived *via* ship at the Port of Portsmouth and were transported to the site by truck. The blades were transported by ground from Ontario.

JG: How many people will be working on site in Antrim permanently? What will they be doing?

AW: The operations team will consist of both Siemens Gamesa and TransAlta employees. They will all be located on site and assigned to the Antrim project. In total, there will be four permanent employees at the Antrim site, one TransAlta employee and three Siemens Gamesa employees. Their day-to-day job will be to oversee the wind turbines and the balance of the plant function. They will ensure safe and reliable operation and maintenance of the Antrim wind asset through the application of operating/maintenance standards and procedures and processes that ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. TransAlta is committed to fostering a dynamic, productive and safe work environment, and this team will work to ensure optimal performance through daily work scheduling, planning and implementing maintenance, service and repair of the wind turbine equipment.

JG: Will there be other part-time or seasonal employees?

AW: Currently, we do not plan to hire part-time employees, as the team will be based on four permanent employees on site who will be supported by their respective subject-matter expert groups elsewhere in TransAlta.

JG: How much of the time should we expect to see the turbines in operation? What is a normal amount of downtime for wind turbines?

AW: Generally, turbines are turning around 70–80% of the time, depending on wind conditions and the grid operator (e.g., Eversource) power requirements. The targeted average turbine availability is 95% of the time (hence, 5% downtime).

JG: How will repairs be made to the turbines?

AW: Most repairs will be performed by our on-site employees, as they can be performed within the turbine's tower and/or nacelle. Blade repairs are rarer, as they are designed to last. Any repairs that require external expertise or a crane will be completed through an external contractor under the supervision of Siemens and/or TransAlta.

JG: Will TransAlta hold an open house or periodically offer tours of the facility?

AW: Absolutely. TransAlta is planning to hold an open house in the weeks following the site's commercial operational date.

JG: Will TransAlta have any other presence in town?

AW: At this moment our focus is building a safe and reliable wind generation site in time for our projected operational date. However, TransAlta seeks to be involved in the communities where we operate and where our employees work and live. Community investment opportunities can be forwarded to our team at community_investment@transalta.com.

JG: If people have concerns about the operation of the wind farm, is there a way they can contact TransAlta?

AW: People are welcome to contact TransAlta Corporate Security at 877-967-2555 or Julie Turgeon, US Supervisor, Operations at 514-567-0051. ♦

Antrim Police Department

Lieutenant Brian Lord

We have had some personnel changes as of late. Officer Thomas Horne was offered a Sergeant's position with the Hancock Police Department in July, which he accepted. Officer Horne played an important role as an officer in Antrim. He was our community liaison officer tasked with establishing and maintaining community relations between the Police Department and the community. This included visits to the Antrim Elementary School and Great Brook Middle School, the Grapevine and Avenue A Teen Center. Officer Horne performed these tasks quite well, while also performing all of his other duties as a patrol officer. Officer Horne will remain with the Antrim Police Department as a part-time officer



so you may see him patrolling in town every now and then.

This obviously left us with a vacancy, and we were very fortunate to find a qualified replacement almost immediately. You may have seen his photograph on our Facebook page. His name is Ethan Christensen and he has several years of law enforcement experience with the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Department. Officer Christensen lives in Weare with his wife and daughter. He enjoys riding his motorcycle, fishing and playing golf on his days off.

Officer Christensen was looking for a law enforcement position with an emphasis in criminal law as opposed to civil law, and when our position became available he reached out to us right away.

To understand how fortunate we are to have Officer Christensen we must first understand that there is a hiring dilemma occurring, not only in New Hampshire, but across this country for law enforcement. There are a number of reasons for this.

One reason is the hiring process. The hiring process for a police officer is lengthy and expensive and requires the potential candidate to take a written test, a physical agility test and an oral board interview, as well as a psychological test to determine their suitability to work in law enforcement. This process can and does take months to complete. Compare this to a typical civilian job application process, which

includes filling out the application and an interview, all of which can be completed in a matter of just a few days.

Once a potential candidate is hired by a police department, he or she then attends a 16-week academy. If they successfully complete the academy, they graduate and receive their certification as a full- or part-time police officer.

Next, the new officer participates in a lengthy field training program that partners them with an experienced officer to learn the department's policies and procedures in addition to honing their skills and knowledge gained at the academy. Once the new officer has successfully met all of the training requirements, he or she will then be on their own, out on patrol, putting their knowledge and skill to work.

This entire process takes about a year to complete and at any time the candidate may fail to meet the requirements or just decide the job is not for them and move on. At this point the whole process begins again. As you can see, searching for and hiring a qualified person for the job is a costly and lengthy process. Also, during the process of trying to fill a vacancy, the other officers have to fill the open shifts. This means an increase in overtime pay and added duties and stress to an officer's already-full schedule. These requirements also put a strain on an officer's time with his or her family, because in order to cover the open

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shifts, he or she will have to work on a scheduled day off. This may mean missing a birthday, an anniversary celebration, or a much-needed day off.

Another reason for the lack of qualified personnel applying for law enforcement positions is the lack of respect for police officers across the country. A person who was thinking of a law enforcement career may, after watching examples of the mistreatment of police officers in the news on a daily basis, change his or her mind and seek a different career path. Those who do sign up have to go through the intense hiring process listed above, and the reality is that, even though they have a strong desire and a sense of duty to serve, a lot of potential candidates will not make it through the hiring process. These are just a couple of examples of why it is difficult to find and hire qualified people to fill the multitude of vacant positions in law enforcement across the country.

As a result agencies will hire full-time certified police officers to fill their vacant positions. This was the case with our newest officer, Ethan Christensen, and we are very fortunate to have him on board. Officer Christensen is a great addition to our team of outstanding police officers and will be a great fit for the town of Antrim.

Please give him a warm welcome when you see him out on patrol in the coming weeks. ♦

First Presbyterian Church

Sharon Dowling, Music Director

Greetings from the folks at First Presbyterian Church in Antrim! Summer is winding down and we are looking forward to all the delights of the harvest time. The Congregation had some fun times, including an indoor "picnic," a Trivia night, Vacation Bible School with our friends from the Baptist Church, and good Fellowship on Sunday mornings.

During the summer months members of the congregation have been studying the book *Simon Peter: Flawed but Faithful Disciple* by Reverend Adam Hamilton. Andi Spear brought this book study from her church in Georgia and has been leading. This fall we will be studying *Neighborhood Church* by the Reverends Krin Van Tatenhove and Rob Mueller. Book and Bible studies meet following Sunday service and Fellowship. Please call for further information if you are interested in joining the discussions!

September will see us, hopefully, meeting at 5 p.m. at Gregg Lake on Sunday, September 8th, for our annual cook-out. We have been very lucky with weather the past few years, and hope that continues! Bring your own meat to grill, a dish or snack to share, and maybe even a game to play!

Home and Harvest Festival should see us manning a table on the front lawn again, with ice water and lemonade to share! Stop by for a cool drink and visit!

And on Halloween we will be treating the ghosts and ghouls on that same spot! Can the Thanksgiving turkey be far behind?!

Our ongoing mission projects include The Revival Shop, ConVal End 68 Hours of Hunger, new underwear and sock collections for veterans, and the 100 Nights cold weather shelter in Keene. Our church was represented at the recent Lights for Freedom rally in Peterborough, demanding closing the concentration camps and fighting for a more humane immigration policy. Our congregation is small, but our hearts are huge!

As always, you are welcome to join us on Sundays for worship at 10:30 a.m. Choir will be restarting on September 29th and practices at 9:30. Come join us! ♦

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Stripped Bare by LiDAR: Antrim's stone walls and other secrets revealed

George Caughey

Thanks to the "NH Stone Wall Mapper" initiative sponsored by NH Department of Environmental Services and UNH, with additional support from the NH Charitable Foundation, the entire state has been probed by LiDAR. This technology maps ground surfaces, penetrating through or around trees and other vegetation to underlying rocks, soil, and surface water. LiDAR images of New Hampshire available online are synched with conventional satellite images and maps of county, town and property boundaries (see <https://nhdes.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=f4d57ec1a6b8414190ca0662456dff60>). What is this technology? LiDAR is an acronym for Light Detection and Reflection. It is similar to RADAR except that it uses much shorter wavelengths, including those generated by lasers in the portion of the electromagnetic spectrum visible to humans, and thus can image objects with greater precision and detail. It has found many applications, such as for self-driving cars, and for the most part has replaced the "Radar gun" used by law enforcement. It has achieved international attention in the press for its ability to see previously unsuspected Mayan ruins and larger-scale infrastructure now otherwise thoroughly disguised by jungle growth. More details on LiDAR as applied to ground mapping in New Hampshire can be found at <http://www.granit.unh.edu/resourcelibrary/specialtopics/stonewalls/>.

One of LiDAR's intriguing capabilities is "seeing" our stone walls, which are revealed even lying deep in forested terrain and hidden from view by conventional satellite-deployed cameras. This creates a practical means—for the first time, really—of identifying, mapping, and measuring the accumulated length of the stone walls in each town individually and in the state as a whole. As one tool for getting to the finish line, NHDES and UNH are crowd-sourcing wall identification on LiDAR images. Specifically, they invite the public (you, me, anybody with a computer and in-

 — continued on page 12

Antrim's Festival of Trees

Kristy Boule

Your local elves have been busy all year preparing for the upcoming 10th anniversary of the Festival of Trees. Special features and celebratory trees are in the works. Registrations are now open for anyone who would like to submit a tree or a wreath for display at the Festival. All are welcome: area businesses, artisans, groups, families, or individuals. Displays can be new creations, special collections, handmade or store-made, or a reprised favorite. Visitors love voting for their favorites among the huge variety, with categories such as Favorite Topper, Under Tree Display, Most Creative, Funniest and Overall Favorite. There's a special category for Kids' Creations as well, for entrants under 12. Trees can be anything from miniature, table-top size or small through extra-large!

The Open House kick-off will be Saturday, November 30, from 10 to 4, with a Community Tree Lighting and Visit with Santa happening at 4 p.m. The Festival will continue through the month of December. The popular Festival Gala and Meet-the-Artist Night will be Saturday, December 14.

Those entering a tree or a wreath will be able to set their creations up during the week of November 18–23. Area quilters, crafters and artisans are being sought and encouraged to submit items for display as well, with a due date of November 1 for drop-off.

If anyone has a favorite photo from one of the past Festivals, whether an individual tree or special item, you're encouraged to submit that photo for inclusion in a special anniversary display.

A Make-and-Take(ish) Wreath Workshop is planned for early October. Decorate a wreath for display at the Festival and you get to take it home with you at the season's end. Wreaths, ribbon, miscellaneous decorations, inspiration and instructions included. Bring your ideas and any special-focus items; the rest will be available from our bounty.

We kick off our season at Antrim's Home & Harvest Festival with our booth along Main Street, where we will have our popular ornament swap and sale, as well as the reveal of our raffle quilt for this year, made by the Festival Stitchers. Be sure to keep an eye out for us in the parade. We always have a blast coming up with new ideas to entertain you!

Check out our website www.antrimfestivaloftrees.com or our Facebook page for information and registration forms. Forms are also available at the Tuttle Library. Email us at AntrimFOT@gmail.com or you can call us at 831-1802 if you would like to volunteer or if you have any questions. Here's hoping for a merry and bright season. ♦



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ternet connection), to identify stone walls and mark them as a layer of pink lines superimposed on a LiDAR-generated image of NH, stripped of vegetation. Of course, not everything appearing to be a stone wall by LiDAR will pass an eyeball test, so “ground-truthing” will be needed for many of these walls, excepting those that are plainly visible on satellite photographs, particularly those taken during seasons when the leaves have dropped from the deciduous trees. But visiting every potential stone wall in person is an enormous task that is unlikely to be completed within a decade, if ever. Moreover, personal views on what qualifies as a stone wall (see below) vary and there will need to be some agreement on standards for the outcome of state-wide ground-truthing efforts to be valid, consistent and interpretable.

At this point it is worth taking a look at the magnitude of the task at hand. It has been predicted that NH's stone walls, if laid end to end, might reach to the Moon, some 250,000 miles. The amount of rock moved and placed in walls surely rivals that of the pyramids and represents millions of person-hours of labor. Others have cited this as the figure for all of New England, which only serves to emphasize that nobody really knows the length in question, but I suspect the NH

figure is an exaggeration. To bring the speculation to a local level, let's consider how many miles of stone walls might be in the town of Antrim by doing a back-of-the-envelope calculation. New Hampshire has 221 towns and 13 cities. Assuming that stone walls distribute evenly among towns and cities in the state—recognizing that this is a dubious assumption—and that NH has the abovementioned total of 250,000 miles of wall, then Antrim itself has 1068 miles of wall.

Is this a plausible estimate for our small town? Based on my experience on the ground and as a citizen LiDAR-assisted stone wall identifier, I say maybe, but with caveats relating to what qualifies as a stone wall, which will influence the final tally. First of all, it can be challenging to distinguish stone walls seen by LiDAR from berms and ditches along a road, although we all know that many of our old roads are in fact lined with stone walls, which served historically to keep livestock in and out of roadside pastures. Secondly, many stone walls stop and start in the “middle of nowhere,” making them harder to distinguish from a random line of rocks. Most of us have had the experience of encountering such walls, which are clearly human-constructed and may have

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The LiDAR image to the left is a ~1/4 square mile (160 acre) section of heavily forested, uninhabited part of Antrim between Gregg Lake and Willard Pond, situated on a ridge bracketed by low-lying beaver swamps. Old stone wall-lined town roads (now discontinued), cellar holes, barn foundations, and outlines of pasture and cropland are rendered visible by LiDAR. To the right is a conventional satellite image of the same area with a superimposed map of LiDAR-imaged stone walls and foundations.



Tuttle Library News

Cindy Jewett, Laurie Cass-Griggs, Melissa Lawless

Programs

September	All Month	2 nd Annual Library Survey
2	Mon.	Labor Day—Library Closed
10	Tues.	Skywatch, 8 p.m. (back-up date Sept. 12)
14	Sat.	Home & Harvest Open House & Refreshments 10:30–3:30
28	Sat.	The Guitar in Latin America, 1 p.m.
October	All Month	Halloween Candy Drive
5	Sat.	Colonel Creighton—Military Careers, 10:30 a.m.
10	Thurs.	Lizzie Borden Took an Axe, or Did She? 6:30 p.m.
14	Mon.	Columbus Day—Library Closed
18	Fri.	Training Session—Library Closed
21–26		Pumpkin Carving Contest! Bring in your carved pumpkins and vote for your favorite.
26	Sat.	Spooky Crafts and Refreshments 11–3 Pumpkin Carving Winner announced at 3 p.m.
November		
9	Sat.	Lynne Rosansky—The Future of Higher Education 10:30 a.m.
11	Mon.	Veteran’s Day (Observed)—Library Closed
28	Thurs.	Thanksgiving—Library Closed
30	Sat.	Festival of Trees Open House 10—4 with a visit from Santa at 4 p.m.!
<i>Every Thursday</i>		Lego Club, 3:30 p.m.
<i>Every Friday</i>		Story Time, 10:00 a.m.

2nd Annual Library Survey

Come in and participate in our 2nd annual Library Survey. This is your opportunity to offer suggestions that you feel would make our library better. Answer a few questions and discuss museum passes you’d like to see, streaming services you’re interested in or databases you’d like to peruse. Let us know your thoughts!

Skywatch

Please join the New Hampshire Astronomical Society at the library, after hours on Tuesday, September 10, from 8–10 p.m. Meet indoors first for an educational slide presentation, and then we’ll move outside for “Skywatch,” a gathering of amateur astronomers with a focus on outreach and education and by definition “beginner-friendly.” Skywatch members will arrive before sunset, set up their equipment and choose their celestial targets with public education and outreach in mind. For more information, visit <http://www.nhastro.com/index.php> or call the library at 588-6786. Free and open to the public. In the case of cloudy or inclement weather, the back-up date for this program is Thursday, September 12 at 8 p.m. Call the library to check if you’re unsure.

Home & Harvest Open House

The library is your place to come during the Home & Harvest Festival on Saturday, September 14, from 10:30 a.m.–3:30 pm. We’ll have complimentary refreshments, as well as clean bathrooms, air conditioning and a place to regroup and meet friends. Please join us!

The Guitar in Latin America: Continuities, Changes and Bicultural Strumming

José Lezcano presents a multi-media musical program that showcases the guitar in Latin America as an instrument that speaks many languages. Lezcano presents a variety of musical styles: indigenous strummers in ritual festivals from Ecuador, Gaucho music from Argentina, European parlor waltzes from Venezuela, and Afro-Brazilian samba-pagode. He also plays pieces by Villa-Lobos, Brouwer, Lauro, Barrios, Pereira, and examples from his Fulbright-funded research in Ecuador. José Lezcano earned a PhD from Florida State University and is Professor of Music at Keene State College. Lezcano is a twice Grammy-nominated Cuban-American guitarist, composer, folklorist, and music educator and has published articles on South American, Caribbean, and

Afro-Cuban music and musicians. He has captivated audiences on four continents. His programs of Latin American music, his own original compositions and classical repertory have taken him from the Carnegie Recital Hall to important festivals and venues in Cuba, Spain, Brazil, Germany, China, Peru, the Czech Republic, Ecuador and Colombia. José Lezcano comes to the library as part of a grant from the NH Humanities to Go Program. This program is free and open to the public. Saturday, September 28, at 1 p.m.

Halloween Candy Drive!

Every October, the library collects candy for downtown residents on Halloween! Let’s continue to keep Antrim’s downtown a safe and fun place to trick-or-treat and help residents by bringing wrapped candy donations to the library. Look for the orange container! If you’re a downtown resident who wants to get on the list, speak to a librarian.

Colonel Jim Creighton: Antrim’s Scholar-Soldier

Please join us on Saturday, October 5, at 10:30 a.m., when Antrim resident Jim Creighton will give a presentation

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served as one side of an animal enclosure, for example, or have been part of a longer wall that was extended in either direction by perishable materials, such as stumps or wooden posts and rails. Many disused 100- to 200-year-old walls become faint and fragmentary—looking more like dashed lines on LiDAR—having been degraded over time from cumulative effects of frost heave, tree falls, logging operations, recreational vehicle activity, and lack of maintenance. Walls that were low in height when constructed are especially susceptible (and most originally were about thigh-high as dictated by the ergonomics of stone lifting and were topped with wooden fence—or later barbed wire—if more height was needed). In rocky terrain and hillslopes, old stone walls often incorporate existing glacial erratic boulders, cliff slabs and other rocks that were convenient for the purpose and were too big to move with a team of oxen anyway. This complicates the process of deciding when a wall stops and starts. Based on some of my own crude calculations and mapping efforts, I predict that Antrim has a still-impressive 300–400 miles of wall. If this prediction holds, Antrim has about 10 miles of wall on average for each of its 35 square miles of surface area. We'll see.

It goes without saying that many existing walls visible by LiDAR are not old, traditional, hand-built, unmortared fieldstone creations. Some stones decorate poured concrete walls, or form part of walls mortared with modern concrete that stands up to freeze-thaw cycles. Other walls are lines of huge boulders stacked by front-loaders and other heavy earthmoving equipment, or just shoved to the side while bulldozing roads or croplands. Opinions will vary about whether to include these in the survey, but on LiDAR it can be challenging to distinguish them from historic walls. Even among traditional walls there is considerable variety in size and form, including dumped vs thrown/tossed vs fitted/laid, single vs double, fieldstone vs quarried material. And there is the question of whether to include stone dams, retaining walls, animal pounds and pens, and the foundations of old cellar holes, many of which are readily apparent in LiDAR images. These options are left largely to the discretion of the citizen wall-finder on the NH GRANIT website. Thus, the final summation of wall length in Antrim and other NH towns will partly depend on the wall-finding “signature” of individual wall mappers involved in the crowd-sourced project. I have had much fun working on various parts of the region, but there is much more work to do. I suggest that you try it out yourself!

I should add that quite apart from stone wall-gazing, looking at LiDAR images can be fascinating and addictive. The more you look the more you see, and often it is like seeing the land you thought you knew so well for the first time. For example, I found two old cellar holes I never knew existed, even though I had hiked near them many times. I also used LiDAR to flesh out the layout of an abandoned “agropolis” in west Antrim (see LiDAR photos), now given over to forest and slowly expanding beaver swamps, but at one time replete with open pastures and crop fields, livestock enclosures, hand-dug rock-lined wells, roads double-lined with stone walls, and fieldstone foundations for disappeared farmhouses and barns. Stepping further back to take in the big picture, and cultivating my inner geologist, I convince myself I can see larger-scale glacial features such as collections of deposited erratic boulders, hilltops scraped clean of rocks by glacial ice, kettle ponds and likely locations of post-glacial lakes, as well as deep ravines and delta fans arising in my imagination from sudden flooding and erosion from ice-dam breaks. I invite you to indulge in similar fantasies, or to create your own. Whether in the final summation Antrim is found to have 100 miles of stone walls, or 1000, it will be well worth knowing that the granite edifices are there—and where they lie. They are paradoxically fragile remnants and reminders of a prodigiously industrious, not-so-distant but now mostly forgotten, civilization and way of life—in a way, Antrim's own Stonehenge. ♦

Dry Firewood for 2020



We are **sold out** of dry firewood for this year but we have already been taking orders for delivery in fall of 2020. We sell out early so it is not too early to place an order for delivery next fall. We also have plenty of **maple syrup** from this year so give us a call at 603-588-3272

We only sell **dry** firewood because that is the best and safest way to burn it. **We will soon be working to produce firewood for next season!** Order today for fall 2020 delivery. Price: **\$260/cord delivered for 1 or 2 cords. \$270/cord for 3 or more cords.** Ask our customers—it is dry! **Call: 603-588-3272**

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Woman in the Woods

Susan Smith

Have you ever come upon orphaned or injured wildlife and wondered what to do or who to contact? Before attempting to rescue or come in contact with any wildlife species, your first step should be to either contact NH Fish & Game at 271-3361 if you find a deer, moose, or bear, or locate a NH-licensed Wildlife Rehabilitator for other species, such as small mammals, birds, raptors, turtles, etc. NH Fish & Game provides a list of licensed NH Wildlife Rehabilitators along with their contact information, location, and permitted species to rehabilitate on their website at <https://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/wildlife/rehabilitators.html>.

I'm from Bennington, and am one of the NH Wildlife Rehabilitators listed on the NH Fish & Game website. I'm permitted for small mammal species such as squirrels, bunnies, chipmunks, and skunks. It was my childhood dream to work with animals, and in 1990 I had an opportunity to volunteer for a licensed NH Wildlife Rehabilitator in Keene. After five years of training to care for small mammals, along with assistance in setting up my own facility, I obtained my license in 1995 and recently was reactivated in 2018.

NH Wildlife Rehabilitators are volunteers who are trained to provide specialized care to wildlife. We do not receive any reimbursement from NH Fish & Game, so donations from the public help aid us in providing food, medications, medical treatment, cages, and other items for their care. We are also required to have a veterinarian willing to treat our injured wildlife before applying for a license.

Being a Wildlife Rehabilitator has been very satisfying—knowing how to provide care, watching them grow, then having the opportunity to release them back into their natural habitat. At times it can also be difficult—with illness or serious injuries, when rehabilitation is not an option. Being professionally trained in providing care to wildlife is essential, as, for instance, feeding the incorrect milk replacement or food can cause serious illness and possibly death. Their digestive systems are fragile and the best thing you can do

to help them is contact someone who is trained. New Hampshire requires a license to rehabilitate wildlife, and currently there are over twenty throughout the state who are trained to respond to wildlife calls.

Recently I was informed of a fawn that was behind a property on Main Street in Antrim and learned that someone found it earlier that morning and moved it to another location. It was placed back in the area where the mother had left it and later that day she did return for it. If you come across a fawn that appears to be abandoned, remember that a doe will leave a fawn for short periods of time during the day while she feeds and will return for it later, so it is important not to move it from where she left it. If it has been there for a longer period of time, Fish & Game should be contacted.

So the next time you come upon any wildlife that you believe is orphaned or appears to be injured, contact a NH Wildlife Rehabilitator in your area or call NH Fish & Game. We are trained to assist you in getting the right care.

Thank you for taking the time out of your busy day to help any animal, as many times you are the first step in getting them care.

Feel free to contact me at NHWildlifeRescue@gmail.com.



Gregg Lake Watershed Management Plan

Joan Gorga

We're making good progress toward developing a watershed management plan for Gregg Lake. Heartfelt thanks go out to the twenty people who participated in our Water Quality Advisory Committee meeting in June, during which we reviewed water quality data gathered over the past forty years and set a goal of restoring Gregg Lake's water quality to a level that removes it from the state's list of impaired waters. This will require reducing sediment and pollutants being carried into the lake with stormwater runoff and shoreline erosion, as well as controlling the amount of material stirred up from the lake bottom. We'll also need to consider pollutants, including plant nutrients, entering the lake through aging nearby septic systems. We've identified a number of areas where erosion is having an impact on Gregg Lake's water quality, grouped them into discrete projects and begun to lay out an action plan for restoring our lake. We'll hold a public meeting this fall to present our action plan to the Town.



Funding for this project was provided in part by a Watershed Assistance Grant from the NH Department of Environmental Services with Clean Water Act Section 319 funds from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.



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Antrim Grange #98

Renee Mercier-Gerritsen, Grange Master

Antrim Grange has been as busy as always. We held a Membership Day in May for current members to learn how to find new members to join our awesome organization. We also held our Community Awards Night and handed out many well-deserved certificates.

We continue to work to raise money to renovate the Antrim Grange Hall. It is still in the foundation-repair process, but we are hoping to get past this point soon. If you would like to donate money, materials or time to this ongoing project, please contact Beth Merrill on the Antrim Grange Facebook page to find out how.

A few Grange members went and did tickets at the Cheshire Fair gates as a fundraiser. We have done this for at least four years now. Also, at the Cheshire Fair, we put up our Antrim Grange exhibit and won a blue ribbon for our efforts. We will also be setting up our exhibit at the Hopkinton Fair, Deerfield Fair and Hillsborough County Fair in New Boston. Thank you, Gloria Davis and Dawne Hugron, for your hard work.

As I am writing this article, we have just concluded handing out the last of our Penny Sale winner items for this year. We had a good turnout as always. The total was 29 people in attendance for our Summah Suppah and 28 people who bought Penny Sale tickets. We had a lot of first-time Penny

Salers this year. One individual was so excited when I called him to tell him he won an item it was like he had won the lottery. He assured us he would be back next year. Peter Beblowski won our first-time donation from Angus Lea of two 9-hole games of golf and was thrilled. Our 'regulars' Margaret and Kim from Washington came with lots of family in tow this year. They had their usual carload of items to go home with.

Summah Suppah was ham and beans this year. There was a delicious squash and zucchini casserole made by Beth that got many positive comments and people getting seconds. Homemade pies made by Beth Merrill and Kathy Yardley ended our Suppah nicely before the numbers for Penny Sale started being called.

Thank you to the businesses who contributed: Angus Lea, Hillsboro Aubuchon's, Saxy Chef, Edmund's Hardware, Rick & Diane's, Patten Hill Farm and Deer Meadow Farm, as well as the individuals who donated items that we could not have done without: Cassie & John Anderson and friends, the Storros, Marilyn Mercier, Gwen Yardley, Jerry Dumont, Janice Mellen from Gregg Lake and also the Grange members who brought items for our sale. We look forward to next year and hope that more first-timers will come in.

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Community Calendar

SEPTEMBER

- 8 *First Presbyterian Church Annual Cookout* • Gregg Lake • 5:00 p.m.
10 *Skywatch* • NH Astronomical Society program • Tuttle Library • 8:00 p.m.
13-14 *Home & Harvest* • downtown Antrim • see poster insert
14 *Antrim Center Nature Hike* • Antrim Historical Society & Antrim Conservation Commission
19 *Free Community Supper* • First Presbyterian Church • 5:30 p.m.
19 *Antrim Eclectic Book Club* • Antrim Area Senior Center • First Presbyterian Church • 11:00 a.m.
28 *The Guitar in Latin America* • NH Humanities to Go program • Tuttle Library • 1:00 p.m.
28 *At The Cross Open House & Fall Concert* • Old Stone Church • 1:00–5:00 p.m.



OCTOBER

- 5 *Military Careers* • presentation by Colonel Jim Creighton • Tuttle Library • 10:30 a.m.
10 *Lizzie Borden Took an Axe, or Did She?* • Professor Annette Holba • Tuttle Library • 6:30 p.m.
17 *Antrim Eclectic Book Club* • Antrim Area Senior Center • First Presbyterian Church • 11:00 a.m.
17 *Free Community Supper* • First Presbyterian Church • 5:30 p.m.
26 *Spooky Crafts, Pumpkin Carving Contest and Refreshments* • Tuttle Library • 11:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER

- 9 *The Future of Higher Education* • discussion led by Lynne Rosansky • Tuttle Library • 10:30 a.m.
17 *Trains of the Past* • Antrim Historical Society presentation by Dale Russell • First Presbyterian Church • 3:00 p.m.
21 *Antrim Eclectic Book Club* • Antrim Area Senior Center • First Presbyterian Church • 11:00 a.m.
21 *Free Community Supper* • First Presbyterian Church • 5:30 p.m.
30 *Festival of Trees Open House* • Tuttle Library • 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
30 *Community Tree Lighting & Visit with Santa* • Tuttle Library • 4:00 p.m.



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on military careers. Over the course of a more-than-thirty-year Army career, Jim had thirty-one jobs, each of which he loved. As a twenty-three-year-old Lieutenant, he helped prepare US forces for a potential Soviet invasion of Germany. Jim even had to plan how to rescue the US brigade then stationed inside Berlin, which was at that time situated inside the Soviet occupation zone. Jim's final Army job was as commander of an infantry brigade fighting in Afghanistan. In that role, he supervised Afghan elections at more than seventy-seven voting sites. After four years of semi-retirement wondering what he would do with his spare time, Jim has immersed himself in Antrim activities. Jim's wife, Tamazine, was a career US Army officer achieving the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and is now active in the Antrim-Bennington Lions Club and serves as a tennis official in major tournaments through New England.

Lizzie Borden Took an Axe, or Did She?

In 1892, Lizzie Borden was charged with the murder of her parents in Fall River, Massachusetts. Although she was acquitted, the case created a sensation and what truly happened remains a mystery to this day. Plymouth State University professor Annette Holba reviews the evidence. Join us for this exciting program on Thursday evening, October 10, at 6:30.

Pumpkin Carving Contest

Be a part of our Pumpkin Carving Contest! Bring your carved pumpkins into the library during the week of October 21–26. Come in any day that week to vote for your favorite! On Saturday, October 26, from 11–3, enjoy spooky crafts and light refreshments. The winner of the carving contest will be announced at 3 p.m. You can pick up your pumpkins if you wish any time after that to get them home in time for Halloween!

The Future of Education

Please join us on Saturday, November 9, at 10:30 a.m., when Lynne Rosansky will lead a discussion on "The Future of Higher Education in the Information Age." Since the internet has become the 'source' for information in our age, the role of teachers, professors and educational institutions has

changed and is continuing to change. Lynne will present a short historical perspective showing how higher education has changed over the past thirty years and lead a discussion of what the future may hold. Having spent a career in academia, Lynne has served as president, vice president, dean, chair and professor at both private and public institutions including Babson, Bentley, Brandeis, SUNY, Franklin Pierce University and Hult International Business School.

Festival of Trees Open House

Don't miss this year's much-awaited Antrim Festival of Trees as they host their 10th year of colorful, festive trees displayed in the library. This year's Open House is Saturday, November 30, from 10 a.m.–4 p.m. At 4 p.m., Santa arrives via fire truck to visit with children and their families in the library. The festival continues throughout the month of December.

New Titles at the Library

We've been adding LOTS of new titles at the library this summer and fall. If you haven't been here in a while, stop by and see what's new. Also, keep up to date on our new, exciting programs—"like" us and follow us on Facebook and Instagram! ♦



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Pickleball Returns to Antrim

Milli Knudsen

After a brief hiatus, pickleball is returning to Antrim, with games to be played in the Antrim Town Gym on School Street on Saturday afternoons from 3:30 to 5. As part of the Home & Harvest festivities, free pickleball instruction and demonstration games will be held at the Town Gym on Friday evening, September 13, from 7–9 p.m., and an exhibition round-robin tournament for all ages will take place on September 14 from 2–5 p.m. Come enjoy the action, or join in and see if pickleball is for you.

Besides having a funny name, the game of pickleball is known for laughter and occasionally fierce competition. Fondly called “mixed generational doubles,” pickleball was originally developed to welcome old and young, athletic and not-so-skilled, to play a game together at a summer camp on Whidbey Island in Washington State. The rules and scoring are a combination of those found in table tennis, badminton and volleyball. In mixed doubles (the usual in local games), serving starts in the right-hand part of the court and the player continues serving until they lose the serve.

The original paddles were homemade from plywood; there are now more complex versions with honeycomb interiors and graphite outer layers, but elaborate equipment is not necessary. The original wiffle ball has been replaced by



a more rubbery form that bounces farther and holds up better under stress. The balls differ slightly depending on whether the game is played outdoors or in, with harder plastic balls used for outdoor tennis-court play and softer rubber/plastic ones for use on a gym floor. The score is announced as “2-1-1,” for example, meaning the server’s score is 2, the opposing team has 1 and the server is the first one on that side to serve. Most games are played to 11, and you must win by 2 points.

The pickleball court measures 20 feet by 44 feet with a tennis-like net in the center. On either side of the net is a seven-foot strip known as the “kitchen,” where you have to be careful not to step to return the ball unless it has already bounced on your side. If you “guard the net” by standing inside the kitchen, you lose the point.

Locally there are active pickleball games played in Concord, Peterborough, Antrim, Hillsboro and New London. In Antrim, the Town Gym is now open for pickleball on Saturday afternoons from 3:30 to 5, and pickleball lines have been painted on the outdoor tennis court in Memorial Park. Enjoy! ♦

Noble Victory

William Bryk

Julio, the obstinate, challenging Percheron/Morgan cross bay with whom I’d been learning to ride since February 2017, went to honorable semi-retirement at a Vermont stable in July 2018. He’s been trained as a therapy horse. He’s working with emotionally troubled children. He loves kids and they love him. He’s doing well. I miss him.

Toby, Julio’s successor in my riding life, is a 15.2 hand thoroughbred. The term “hand,” when used to measure a horse’s height, was once defined as the breadth of the palm including the thumb. King Henry VIII standardized it at four inches. He was the kind of guy who could make that ruling stick. Hence, from the ground to the withers (the flat area of his vertebrae atop his shoulders), Toby stands 60.8 inches tall.

Toby is a barn name, an informal affectionate diminutive. As a thoroughbred, he also has a registry name.

The Jockey Club was founded by Leonard Jerome. He was the father of Jennie Jerome and thus maternal grandfather of Winston S. Churchill. Jerome Park, Jerome Avenue in The Bronx, Jerome Avenue in Brooklyn, and the Jerome Stakes, run every January at Aqueduct Racetrack, are named for him.

The Jockey Club keeps a registry of thoroughbreds and their lineages. It shows that Toby descends from Nashua and Native Dancer, two great racehorses of the Fifties. Nashua, “the greatest horse who never won the Kentucky Derby,” had thirty starts: won twenty-two, placed in four and showed in one. He ran fourth in the other three. He was the second American horse to bring home over \$1 million in prize money. Native Dancer, the “Grey Ghost,” won twenty-one of twenty-two starts. Though the United States Horse of the Year for 1954, he too never won the Kentucky Derby. Both horses had great speed, stamina, and courage.

And Toby? He was born in 1994, sired by Vicksburg out of Noble Dream Maker. His registry name is derived from those of his sire and dam: Noble Victory. I like it.

My instructor, Dorothy Crosby, asserts that Toby’s patience, training, and athletic ability make a great combination; he adjusts well to any level of rider, but loves a good workout requiring some skill and precision.

Well, I am the man on horseback, so, despite my imperfections—poor balance and coordination in particular—I have to develop the skill and precision.

Two weeks after my last lesson with Julio in July 2018, I began working with Toby. I picked up his halter and lead rope and left the stable for the paddock. I hadn’t paid much attention to Toby before. I remembered only that he was brown and wore hoof boots. Two horses were grazing outside the stable. Both were brown with hoof boots.

I advanced toward the one that looked most like Toby as I vaguely remembered him. I gave him a carrot and then tried

✍️ — continued on page 22

At The Cross Open House & Fall Concert

Nick Davis, Pastor

The Old Stone Church in Antrim is excited to announce its Open House and Fall Concert on Saturday, September 28th, from 1–5 p.m. The At The Cross congregation has been meeting there since its restoration was completed on December 24, 2017. There will be lots of fun events happening, including a bouncy house for the kids and an arts and crafts table, as well as lots of free food! The Antrim Historical Society will share some of the church's rich history. The teens will love the music too, as the folks from the Manchester Christian Worship team will be on hand. Opening for them will be local talent Don Readell. No matter what your age there will be something fun for everyone! If you need transportation we've got you covered! Our newly-donated bus will be shuttling visitors every hour to and from the Antrim Elementary & Great Brook Middle School parking lot. If you have any questions, please call Pastor Nick at (603) 464-9682. Hope to see you "At The Cross." ♦

Antrim Grange #98 continued from page 16

Our upcoming events include Home & Harvest Festival, where we will have a table set up. Stop by to see us! We will also be part of this year's new event, a historical walk in Antrim Centre. If you would like to see the inside of our beautiful Grange Hall, which was also the first meetinghouse in Antrim, please look for the schedule when it becomes available from either the Home & Harvest Festival Committee and/or the Antrim Historical Society.

Most of our Antrim Grange members will be participating in our annual State Grange Session in October, which is being held in Lebanon this year. National Grange Session will follow in November.

We will be making cookies for the Town Tree Lighting and serving the December Community Supper. As Grange members, we never sit idle very long!

If anyone would like to learn how to become a member of Antrim Grange, don't hesitate to contact us on the Antrim Grange Facebook page or you can call Renee Mercier-Geritsen at 547-5144. ♦

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The HOPE Initiative

Marcia Ullman

Did you know that the "HOPE" in The HOPE Initiative stands for Health, Opportunity, Prevention and Education? The members of HOPE are a group of concerned citizens who wish to raise the community's awareness of the effects of addictive substances such as nicotine, alcohol, and other drugs. Our goal is to help prevent the misuse of these substances and to decrease the occurrence of substance use disorders.

Community offerings by members of HOPE since its inception in 2013 include annually participating in the Great American Smokeout, annually sponsoring a community supper, showing relevant films followed by panel discussions, a presentation on current adolescent drug use followed by a tour of a mock teenage bedroom and, of course, quarterly articles in the Limrik.

The HOPE Initiative, which operates under the umbrella of The Grapevine Family & Community Resource Center, is represented on Monadnock Hospital's "Be The Change Committee" and on the ConVal Task Force.

We are always looking for new members and new ideas. If you would like more information about the HOPE Initiative, please call Marcia Ullman at (603) 588-2005. The next meeting of the HOPE Initiative will be on Tuesday, September 10 at 10:00 a.m. at Avenue A Teen & Community Center. We hope you will consider joining us. ♦



Remembering Steve Sawyer Antrim's Environmental Champion

Steve Sawyer, who grew up in Antrim, graduated from ConVal High School and became an environmental activist on a global scale, died in Amsterdam on July 31 at age 63, just as he was planning to return to Antrim to retire. Steve was a leader of Greenpeace and, more recently, an advocate for combating climate change and developing renewable energy resources, especially wind power.

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Permanently Conserved Land in Antrim

Charlie Levesque

New Hampshire, at 5,984,000 acres, is one of the smaller states in the country, east or west. We are ranked 46th in that regard. In the northeast, the Granite State is a little smaller than Vermont and Massachusetts, though New Hampshire has more forested acreage than either of those states. Connecticut and Rhode Island are both smaller; Maine and New York are much larger—three times the size of our state. But New Hampshire has the distinction of having the most land permanently conserved as a percentage of the land in the state compared to these other northeastern states.

“Permanently conserved” means land that is owned for conservation purposes by the federal, state, county or local government or by non-profit organizations in the business of land conservation and management (think Harris Center, Monadnock Conservancy, Forest Society). Permanently conserved also means lands owned privately that are covered by a conservation easement held by a non-profit or government agency. A conservation easement is a legal deed that extinguishes certain rights forever—chiefly development, subdivision, mining, etc.—but usually allows agriculture and forestry. A third party—government or non-profit—holds the easement and is required by law to ensure that the owner of the land abides by the no-development requirements of the easement in perpetuity.

New Hampshire has over 1.775 million acres permanently conserved through public ownership or conservation easement on private lands—30% of the state’s area. This area, of course, includes some agricultural land, but the vast majority (over 95%) is forestland. Statewide, 1,109,946 acres (63%) of permanently-conserved fee land is owned by government, another 149,662 acres (8%) is owned by conservation non-profit organizations and 514,244 acres (29%) is private land with conservation easements on it. A great map of all of this can be found at www.granite.unh.edu.

For Antrim, the map of conservation lands shows it all (Figure 1). In 2019, we have 23,368 acres of land in town;

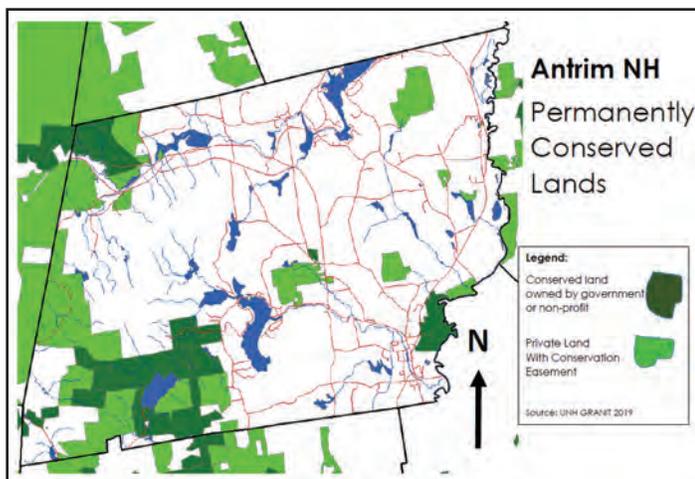


Figure 1 Source: NH GRANIT, 2019

we have 2,015 acres (8.6%) permanently conserved in fee (owned by government or non-profit conservation organizations), and another 2,765 acres (11.8%) of private land with conservation easements on it—a total of 20% of Antrim’s land is conserved.

So why does this matter? We need land for development and to ensure that biodiversity (all the plants and animals) is conserved, as well as ensuring that there are long-term opportunities for outdoor recreation in addition to agriculture and forestry. In 2006, the Antrim Town Meeting adopted the Antrim Open Space Plan (contact me if you want an electronic copy). In that plan, the town agreed that we should try to permanently conserve areas defined as open space priorities (Figure 2).

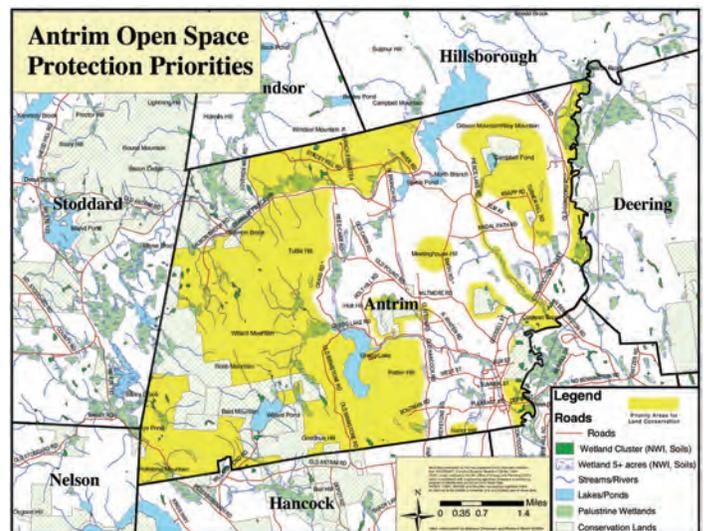


Figure 2 Source: Open Space Conservation Plan for Antrim, November 2005

We haven’t been too successful since then in conserving lands in town set as priorities in the map. A prime example is that the wind farm has been built right in the middle of the western area of town that Town Meeting agreed should be permanently conserved.

There have been other small permanent land conservation projects in town since then using conservation easements. We have a long way to go if we want to accomplish what voters agreed to in 2006.

Charlie Levesque can be reached at 603-588-3272 or levesque@inrslc.com.

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to slip the halter over his muzzle. He was having none of it, raised his muzzle to evade me, and walked away, as did his companion. I followed and tried again. The horse kicked me, striking a glancing blow to my left thigh with his left hind hoof as he cantered away with his companion. Three inches to the right and I might have been in some discomfort. I was more surprised than hurt. The hoof print-shaped bruise faded away after two weeks.

Dorothy emerged from the stable, calling, “Wrong horse, wrong horse.” I replied, “I gathered that.”

She pointed to a third horse, one I hadn’t noticed, about 100 feet to my right. He raised his head with apparent curiosity as I approached. I studied his appearance: slender and brown with a white star on his muzzle and no white socks. We gazed at each other before he submitted to the halter and lead rope and went with me to the barn for grooming. Dorothy suggested that I walk him without riding him during our first encounter, which made sense to me. He responded wonderfully to mere changes of focus—shifting my eyes, navel, and core. I led him from the left and then from the right, which I find more difficult. Apparently, he too found my leading him from the right difficult, as he stepped on my right boot just long enough to trip me. No damage done save to my self-respect.

At the next lesson and for the next five weeks, I found him cooperative except during mounting. As I tried to throw my right leg over his back, he often shifted some eighteen inches away. Consequently, I fell between him and the mounting block. Eventually, I clambered aboard each time.

I could get him to the trot and keep him there. Our lessons became workouts for both of us. At their conclusions I would be soaked through with perspiration. I learned the places in the ring where, for some unknown reason, he would slow to a walk. Following Dorothy’s instructions, I gave him at those places three sets of instructions: three squeezes of my legs, three gentle kicks with my boots, and three taps on the shoulder with the riding crop. They told him to keep trotting, and he did.

One afternoon, Dorothy placed a series of small logs, each perhaps four inches in diameter, about three feet apart. I was to have him approach the logs at the trot so he would become used to taking small jumps with me on his back. We were trotting toward the first log. He abruptly stopped and stared at the log like a small child at a shiny new penny. The sudden stop shifted me out of my seat; the boots and breeches saved me and I sat back down. I turned him, walked about fifty feet, turned him again, and we trotted over the logs, with a slight jump over each one. I enjoyed it.

He was everything Dorothy said he was: consistently responsive to my directions.

Thoroughbreds tend to be sensitive, fine-boned, and even fragile. In September 2018, Toby had some back problems.

Dorothy told me that I couldn’t ride him for the moment until he’d been seen by his chiropractor. I groomed him, as usual, and noticed that he trembled as I gently ran my hand along his spine. I’d never seen that before.

By early October, the chiropractor had told Dorothy that Toby could be ridden and needed to be ridden. On the morning of October 11, Dorothy had checked Toby, too, and he seemed fine.

I groomed him, running my hand along his back. He did not tremble. I saddled and bridled him and led him to the mounting block. I was mounting without first putting my left foot in its stirrup. It’s the first step in learning how to mount from the ground, without a mounting block. On the third try I managed to throw my right leg over his back and plop into the saddle.

At some point after the chiropractor and Dorothy had checked him, Toby may have had an excessively energetic roll in the paddock. We don’t know. But somehow, he had popped two ribs, a condition called subluxation. The bones had become incompletely out of joint with the vertebrae. Often, the condition corrects itself. It did not that day. The consequence for Toby of my mounting him was extreme pain. So he defended himself.

My feet weren’t yet in the stirrups when he reared. This was a new experience for me. He slammed his muzzle into my helmet, giving me a momentary headache. I squeezed my legs together. The breeches and boots kept me in the saddle. I began shortening the reins to gain control of the horse.

Toby’s forelegs returned to the ground. He began running backwards. I was still shortening the reins. The flying stirrups probably whipped him into greater frenzy. I remember thinking this was the first time he had shown me something of the speed of his ancestors. Though still in the saddle, I was not yet balanced. Then he suddenly stopped.

Newton’s First Law of Motion holds that every object will remain in uniform motion in a straight line unless compelled to change its state by the action of an external force. Toby’s sudden stop did not stop me. I flew over his hindquarters. I was then compelled to change my state by the action of that external force Newton defined as gravitation. I was then forcibly reminded that sometimes the hardest thing about learning to ride is the ground.

Dorothy secured Toby. The last thing one wants is an excited horse stamping about a fallen rider. Then she came over to me. I had regained my breath. I opened my eyes, laughed, and said, “Good God, I’ve been thrown.” After all, the rider who has not been thrown has not ridden many horses. But that was my romantic imagination at work. Toby didn’t throw me: I lost my balance.

As Dorothy helped me to my feet, my quondam steed stood placidly to the side, perhaps savoring the absence of pain. Thus triumphed Noble Victory. ♦

Where in Antrim?

Aidan Learn, Richard Block, Lois Johnson, Richard Corazzini, Bill Renda, Michael Redmond, Sr., and Trish Fletcher all correctly identified the site of last month's photo as the Antrim Transfer Station. Lois Johnson won the gift certificate for two small pizzas of her choice at Rick and Diane's.

The names of all who correctly identify the location of this photo by September 15 will be entered into a drawing for a \$25 gift certificate to Edmunds Ace Hardware. Email your response to editor@antrimlimrik.org or call 588-2569. ♦



Photo by Frank Gorga

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Antrim Eclectic Book Club

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Steve Ullman, Coordinator

As a college freshman, I was assigned to English 15—not exactly “English Literature for Morons,” but as close as academic advisers could come. To put it mildly, I was underprepared for the learned study of literature. My high school had never required me to write a single essay exam.

I was pretty sure, nevertheless, that I possessed a secret weapon that would brighten my prospects—a *Roget's Thesaurus* I had received for graduation. Sadly, I fell into the always-tempting trap of “thesaurus overkill.” Having consulted *Roget's*, I referred to an author as the “tale bearer” in one of my assigned essays. My instructor, Mrs. Jobs, had the habit of reading aloud passages in her students' compositions that she found noteworthy. (At this point, thoughtful readers may be pondering whether Mrs. Jobs' name was, in fact, a forewarning of the existential crisis I was about to confront. Was English 15 my own Book of Job?) Thankfully, while doing so, she did not reveal student-authors' identities to the class.

Mrs. Jobs found my use of the synonym for author, to wit, “tale bearer,” hilarious and read my errant sentence for all to hear. The class dissolved into laughter. At that exact second, I had to decide whether I would enlist in the collective hilarity or remain stony-faced in support of my ally, *Roget's*.

Naturally I joined the cackling aimed at the idiot who had overdosed on synonyms.

Thus ended my formal study of English literature.

Over the past fifty-eight years, I have regretted my lack of even a passing acquaintance with, for example, *A Farewell to Arms*. Therefore, I was delighted, six or seven years ago, when the Antrim Eclectic Book Club decided to base its selections on the Modern Library's list of the 100 most significant novels ever written in the English language. Thus far, our club has polished off 60 of the Modern Library's 100 best novels.

We would love for you to join us in our lively discussions of these books. If you are interested, we will meet from 11 a.m. to noon at the Antrim Presbyterian Church, 71 Main Street, on the following Thursdays:

September 19 E. L. Doctorow *Ragtime*

October 17 Richard Wright *Native Son*

November 21 Saul Bellow *Henderson the Rain King*

December 19 Aldous Huxley *Point Counter Point*

Thanks to Melissa Lawless, copies of these books will be available at the Tuttle Library. For further information please email Steve Ullman (stephenhullman@gmail.com). ♦

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Troop 2 Heads to Yellowstone

ANTRIM BOY SCOUTS

Edmond J. Hebert

On July 13 ten scouts—Mike Redmond, Jr., Hunter Redmond, Tyler Redmond, Spencer Redmond, Justin Kiblin, Jesse Kiblin, Garrick Colby, Matthew Colby, Roger Evans and James Powell—and three adult leaders—Scoutmaster Michael Redmond, Assistant Scoutmaster Chester Colby and Troop Committee Chairman Edmond J. Hebert—headed west on a two-week road trip to Yellowstone National Park. This trip took two years to plan.

Our first stop was Howe Caverns in New York. We took a two-mile hike underground with a quarter-mile boat trip on the River Styx and saw all sorts of colorful geological formations, including stalactites and stalagmites. Our next stop was Niagara Falls in the late afternoon and early evening. After viewing the Bridal Veil Falls with colored lights, we were treated to a short fireworks show.

The following day we went to Cleveland, Ohio, and spent several hours touring the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. In my opinion as a baby boomer, the most interesting was the ground floor. We stopped for lunch the following day at the Green Giant Statue Park in Blue Earth, Minnesota, and took pictures of the Jolly Green Giant and Bean Sprout. After being on the road for several hours we developed problems with the bus's alternator and batteries, and ended up staying overnight in Minnesota.

The following day we drove through the Badlands of South Dakota on our way to Mount Rushmore. The Badlands was full of spectacular scenery. Mount Rushmore was inspiring and patriotic.

The next morning we began a long dash to Yellowstone. The day started off very foggy and rainy; as a result we probably missed seeing Devil's Tower off in the distance. The first thing we did at Yellowstone Park was take a cruise on Yellowstone Lake. It was a windy day with two- to three-foot waves. Afterwards, we went to our campsite, where we camped higher than the top of Mt. Washington for the next five nights.

Over the next four days we visited Old Faithful, dozens of other geysers, the Prismatic Pool and dozens and dozens of other pools of hot steaming water. One was a beautiful light crystal-blue clear pool that was 161 degrees Fahrenheit and 37 feet deep. We saw bubbling mud pots. In many of the pools and mud pots you can see the bubbles and steam coming out of the ground.

We visited an area named the "Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone." There are hundreds of spectacular views throughout the canyon and a river rushing through it that first spills over the dramatic Upper and Lower Falls of the Yellowstone after flowing out of Yellowstone Lake.

On the north side of Yellowstone Park is the Lamar Valley, where we saw thousands of bison, including calves. There were a few traffic jams when the bison crossed the road and, of course, there were a few cantankerous bison in the herds. There was one bull that charged the bus for about fifty feet after we got rolling following a traffic jam. Some of the other wildlife we saw were dozens of elk, pronghorn antelope, mule deer, prairie dogs, black bears, moose, ospreys, Canada jays, etc. Unfortunately, we never saw any grizzly bears or wolves.

Throughout Yellowstone Park and its surrounding areas, especially in the Grand Tetons, we saw hundreds of snow packs and ice patches in the higher elevations. We took a trip to Jackson Hole, Wyoming, where we went whitewater rafting and saw a mountain goat. Then we took a tramway ride up the Jackson Hole ski mountain and went to a rodeo.

Finally, we began our long trip home. Just east of Yellowstone, we stopped for supper in Cody, Wyoming, where we visited the Douglas Railroad Museum. Cody just happens to be the birthplace of Sir Barton, the first horse to win the Triple Crown. Cody is also the birthplace of the legendary jackalope.

 — continued on page 26

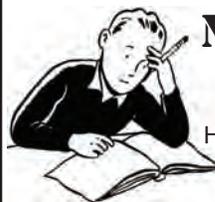
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The next major stop we made was in St. Louis, where we went up the 631-foot Gateway Arch and then took a riverboat cruise of St. Louis on the Mississippi River.

Everybody decided to skip a tour of a coal mine in Pennsylvania and head home instead.

This once-in-a-lifetime trip was enjoyed by everyone. We traveled just under 5,800 miles and visited fifteen states. We kept track of license plates and saw 46 states, four Canadian provinces and Washington, D.C. The four states we didn't see were Mississippi, New Jersey, Rhode Island, and Delaware.

For our two-week trip we had great weather except for two days of rain that had great timing—once when we were in camp for the day due to bus problems and the other time when we were traveling. We came home for a week and then headed off for a week of summer camp. ♦



Cardinal flowers (*Lobelia cardinalis*) put on a stunning show by Hattie Brown Brook in August. Photo by Joan Gorga.

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Caleb and Webster, Superheroes THE DINOSAUR ADVENTURE

Susan Ellsworth

Every night before bed Caleb would choose a book from his bookcase and read it to his dog, Webster, before Mom or Dad came to read him their good night story. That night he chose a book about his favorite subject, dinosaurs. Webster lay on Caleb's lap on top of his blanket, so the book needed to be next to them on the bed. As he began to read the story, Caleb found it was about a little boy dinosaur who was being bullied by bigger boy dinosaurs. The bigger dinosaurs wouldn't let the little dinosaur play with them. They told him he was little, like a baby. This hurt the little dinosaur's feelings, and he began to cry.

As Caleb reached to turn the page, his hand went into the book. He could see his hand in the story. He quickly pulled his hand out, and then put it into the book again, not believing what he was seeing. He knew what he had to do—he jumped into the story, and Webster followed. When Webster jumped in, the book fell open on the bed several pages further into the story. Now they couldn't get out of the story until they reached the open pages. They both had on their superhero capes and had superhero abilities, too. They were standing next to the little boy dinosaur just like on the page where they entered the story. Caleb spoke up and told the bigger dinosaurs to go pick on someone their own size and be nice. They called the little dinosaur a baby and told him to come back when he was bigger like them. They laughed and walked off into a path through trees and bushes. Caleb and Webster told the little dinosaur size didn't matter and that they would be lucky to have him as a friend.

Caleb asked the little dinosaur his name. "Thunder," he told them proudly. He said his mom called him that because someday when he was older, when he walked he would shake the ground like the sound of thunder. Caleb told Thunder his name and Webster's. Thunder asked where they came from, why they looked different from him and the others and why they were there to help him. Caleb said they came from a storybook he was reading back in his bedroom. He was interrupted by a loud, scary noise. Thunder had a very scared look on his face and said, "Everybody hide!"

Then the bigger dinosaurs all came running like they were being chased by something. Something very big. Thunder said it was a sharptooth. He told them sharpteeth would eat anyone, and they needed to hide. Then out of nowhere Thunder's mommy came running to protect him. She tripped over a vine and fell. The sharptooth was almost upon her, when... Thunder instinctively let out a roar. The loudest roar anyone ever heard. It was so loud that you needed to hold your ears. Superheroes Caleb and Webster pulled Thunder's mommy out of the way. Thunder roared over and over. The sharptooth heard the noise and turned and ran

away from the scary roar. Thunder saved his mommy and everyone else. He was a hero!

When the sharptooth was gone, all the other dinosaurs came out and cheered Thunder. They called him their hero. The bigger dinosaurs told him they were sorry for calling him names; they were wrong and he could play with them anytime from now on. They told him they learned that day from him that everyone is special in their own way. It's better to have as many friends as possible. That size, shape and type of being didn't matter; we can all get along if we try.

In the distance Caleb heard his father's voice calling, telling him he would be up in a minute to read him a bedtime story. Webster ran toward Dad's voice and Caleb and Thunder followed. The friends said goodbye and gave each other a hug. Webster got stuck on a branch from a bush and Caleb had to pull on his cape to get him free. Then they both found the opening back to Caleb's bedroom. Webster jumped back into bed and Caleb followed. There they were, both back in Caleb's bed, and the book was back to being a regular storybook again. Caleb wondered if this really happened or if he fell asleep and dreamed it. He was very tired.

Then Dad walked into the room asking Caleb if he had brushed his teeth and was ready for a story. Caleb looked around the room slowly, not sure if this was a dream. He told Dad yes. Dad didn't get far into the story before Caleb was fast asleep. Dad laughed and said someone must have had a busy day being a superhero saving the world today. There at the end of the bed were Caleb and Webster's superhero capes. Dad noticed a branch stuck in Webster's that had ripped the material. He picked it up and looked at the plant, not able to identify it. He scratched his head and thought about it for a minute, shrugged his shoulders and threw it in the trash. He didn't think anything more about it then. He picked up the cape and brought it downstairs to Mom. He knew she could sew the rip and have it fixed before Caleb got up the next day for another play adventure or was it PLAY? ♦

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Antrim-Bennington Lions Club

Steve Ullman, Vice-President

First, a report on what the Antrim-Bennington Lions have been doing recently; then, an outline of our future plans.

Service clubs like the Lions serve as forums for community leaders. In May, we heard from the inspiring leaders of the ConVal School District's "End 68 Hours of Hunger" organization. This all-volunteer group "... puts nourishing food in the hands of school children to carry them through the week-end. Each bag of food costs \$10 each week and provides two breakfasts, two lunches, and three dinners for a child, with some left over to share..." What a remarkable commitment to our students' wellbeing this organization radiates!

In June, Maryanne Cullinan, of Great Brook School and winner of the Sanford Teaching Award for the state of New Hampshire, sketched out her approach to teaching. During her presentation, she energetically involved all the Lions in the exercises she uses with her students. Ms. Cullinan's excellent demonstration illuminated why the Sanford group selected her as an "inspirational pillar" of public education.

And now a report from our super-readers: Sue Conklin, Shelly Connolly, Linda Tenney, and Rick Wood. The Lions were invited to participate in the Title 1 Summer program at Great Brook School, serving children in Antrim and Bennington. For three weeks, one hour a week, we served as

community reading buddies, sharing our favorite children's books, pictures of what it was like to live in Antrim over a hundred years ago, and a glimpse of NASA's achievements. The students guided us through the process of making an "All About Me" book. As with any volunteer effort, we learned so much from these students. Moreover, the AB Lions provided goody bags for each of the students, including a book, a sticker and a snack.

We Lions have planned an active fall. On Saturday night, September 14th, please look for us AB Lions once again offering our celebrated Home and Harvest barbecue. Our leaders have yet to determine which Lion will be chosen to wear the renowned chicken hat. However, I am sure whoever dons it will furnish the sober dignity this assignment requires. This annual barbecue is a major fundraiser supporting our service projects.

Late in September, we will undertake our annual vision-screening duties. We will be working in the towns of Antrim, Bennington, Frankestown, Greenfield, and Hancock, as well as at The Grapevine and the Great Brook Middle School. This program detects eyesight obstacles early in children's lives and is, therefore, invaluable. Lion John Conklin masterfully guides this critical project. ♦



A-B Lions Rick Wood and Shelly Connolly enjoy learning how to write "All About Me" books. Photo by Mary Donovan.

The Grapevine

Melissa Gallagher, Director

Dear Friends and Supporters,

The Grapevine has enjoyed another exciting, fun-filled summer! Our Summer Adventures Series included two weeks of Backyard Adventures and Science Exploration. We were also host once again to Just Create Art and Music Camp. And of course, an incredible array of fun, interesting and educational opportunities for youth were offered at Avenue A Teen + Community Center this summer.

NH GIVES... To Avenue A Teen Center!

This past June, we launched our NH Gives online 24-hour campaign to raise funds for our *Avenue A Teen Center*. With your support, we exceeded our goal and raised \$5,000! Please see the Avenue A article for more info!

COME BORROW TOOLS AND LIGHT EQUIPMENT!

The Community Tool Lending Shed is open and we are lending tools. Come check it out and sign up to borrow specialized tools and light equipment. Think of the tool shed as a lending library—sign it out and bring it back. There is no charge to borrow tools, but donations are gratefully accepted. Special thanks to volunteer and builder Glenn Stan for leading the effort along with our entire Tool Shed Committee for their time and dedication to this project. We are still collecting donations of new and gently-used tools and equipment. **Please contact toolshed@grapevინeh.org to borrow or donate tools.**

This shed was made possible with the generous contribution of a family who wish to honor their late daughters. We are touched and grateful for their lasting contribution.

FALL EVENTS

Join us on our Grapevine float for the Home & Harvest Parade!

Come along with us for the ride! The parade is on Saturday, September 14th. We will be meeting at The Grapevine, at 4 Aiken Street behind the James A. Tuttle Library, to decorate and assemble. Meet us there by 11:00 if you want to ride. We need your theme ideas for this year's float! Contact us if you would like to help.

2019 Grapevine Online Auction

Donations of gift certificates, local, creative arts and goods or services will be accepted during September and October. We will include a business logo or item photo that you provide, a description, and your website link, if desired. Donations are tax-deductible and proceeds go to support the many programs and events we offer. Talk about a win-win! LIVE Bidding November 1–30! This year we will be host-

ing the auction through a new auction platform. Visit <https://www.32auctions.com/grapevინeh> on November 1st to join in on the shopping fun!

ONGOING PROGRAMS

Grandparents Parenting Grandchildren

If you are parenting your grandchildren, you are not alone. *Grandparents Parenting Grandchildren* meets monthly and is free. Carol Lunan from the Grapevine and Wendy Hill from the River Center co-facilitate discussions on topics of interest to participants. This is a great opportunity to talk to people who understand what you are going through and know about resources that might be helpful to you. We often hear that support from this group has been extremely helpful. Call Carol at The Grapevine to learn more. Childcare is available.

Weekly Parent/Child Programs Begin September 3rd

The Grapevine welcomes all children from birth to 5 years of age and their parents to our weekly children's programs. *Better Beginnings parent/child groups* give children an opportunity to play in an enriching environment while parents enjoy time with each other in an adjacent room for coffee and tea and discussions about child- and family-centered topics with our parent group facilitators. Monday, Tuesday or Thursday, 9:30–11:30 a.m.

Hillsborough Parent/Child Playgroup

Beginning the week of September 9th at the Dubben House, located on 34 West Main Street in Hillsborough, a parent/child playgroup will be offered on Mondays from 1:00–2:30 p.m. and Fridays from 10:00–11:30 a.m. This group is for children from birth to age 4 and their parents and/or caregivers. Amy Doyle and Paula Combs lead the Monday group and Paula leads the Friday group. They provide toys, activities and snacks. Open to all and donations welcome. This program is a collaboration between the Grapevine and the Smith Memorial Congregational Church.

— continued on page 30

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