

Tenney Farm Stand 50th Anniversary MORE TO COME!

Joan Gorga

Hard as it is to believe, the Tenneys first opened their farm stand to sell fresh produce in 1970, fifty years ago. They had plans for festivities this summer, but it has turned out to be a difficult year to be celebrating a 50th anniversary!

The fertile land in the Contoocook River floodplain was first farmed in 1775 by the Baldwin family. At that time and for many subsequent years, it was primarily used for dairy cattle, with some sheep also pastured. At the close of World War II, Stanley Tenney was invited to manage the dairy operation at the farm, which was then owned by a wealthy businessman named Sidney Winslow, Jr., who

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vote 2020

State Primary, September 8 General Election, November 3 VOTING GUIDELINES

Town Clerk Diane Chauncey provided the answers to the following questions about voting procedures to be put in place this fall. Diane cautions that state guidelines have been changing rapidly as everyone tries to adjust to the pandemic conditions, and suggests that you check for any final changes in voting procedures, which will be posted on the town website at *antrimnh.org* shortly before Election Day.

1. How do Antrim voters apply for absentee ballots?

To apply for an absentee ballot, find the absentee ballot request form on the *antrimnh.org* website (Home Page—“Find it Fast”—Absentee Ballot Request). Note that the request is a two-sided form—you must fill in both sides. Return the form to the Town Clerk, and your ballot will be mailed to you. Follow the instructions within the envelope.

2. What are the criteria for qualifying to apply for an absentee ballot?

This fall, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, anyone may apply for an absentee ballot.

3. Do you have to apply for each one separately, i.e., one application for the NH primary and another for the general election?

You may apply for absentee ballots for both elections at the same time.

4. Are the return ballots postage-paid by the town?

Not at this time.

5. Will it cost 55¢ or more for the voter to return mail the ballot?

It costs the town 65¢ to send the ballot and related paperwork out, but it will cost only 55¢ to return the ballot because much of the paperwork and envelopes that come with the ballot are removed.

6. Can a ballot be mailed the same or next day after the voter receives it?

The ballot can be mailed as soon as it is received.

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|-------------------------|---|
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— 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.

— WEBSITE —

www.antrimlimrik.org

Talking About Race in Antrim

Linda Bundy

With the goals of "Staying Curious, Moving Forward, and Being a Part of the Solution," a group of local residents meet via Zoom on the third Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. to continue discussions about issues of race and racism. Our conversations have been guided by reading books, taking about three months to complete each one. We're learning more about our country's history than was taught in school, and raising our awareness of existing inequities. The first three books were nonfiction, but our next selection is a novel, *The Water Dancer* by Ta-Nehisi Coates. We plan to read the entire book in one month, and will share our thoughts on Thursday, September 17. New voices are always welcome. Contact Linda Bundy at 588-2254 or n_bundy@mcttelecom.com if you have questions or wish to join us. ♦

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7. Can a ballot be put in the drop box beside the door at Town Hall or does it need to have a US Mail post-mark?

Absentee ballots may NOT go in the drop box, but residents may knock on the door and any of the Town Hall staff will accept the ballots from 8–4, Monday–Thursday. Any ballots placed in the drop box will not be accepted and will not be considered a vote.

8. Is there a deadline for receiving the mailed ballot at Town Hall?

The deadline is 5:00 p.m. on Election Day, but it would be very helpful to our election officials to have ballots returned in a more timely way, if at all possible. Remember that the Primary is the day after Labor Day, and the long holiday weekend may both slow mail delivery and interfere with the ability to return the absentee ballot in person. The Town Clerk will be in the office from 3–5 p.m. on Labor Day to accept absentee ballots.

9. Will there be a ballot drop box at Town Hall accessible from the outside during the days prior to the NH primary election on 9/8/2020 and the general election on 11/3/2020?

Absolutely not.

10. Will there be a ballot drop box inside Town Hall on Election Day, other than upstairs where in-person voting usually takes place? If so, is there a deadline for using this ballot drop box on Election Day?

No, there will not be a ballot drop box other than upstairs on Election Day. There will be no curbside voting, as it is deemed that interfering with traffic flow on Route 202 could be hazardous.

11. Will there be ballot drop boxes at other locations in town?

Absolutely not.

12. Is it okay if a voter doesn't use the absentee ballot and decides to vote in person?

Yes

13. What precautions will be taken to ensure safe in-person voting at Town Hall?

Election workers will be wearing shields, masks and other personal protection equipment and hand sanitizer will be available. The State is providing all the supplies, which were to be picked up by Antrim's Emergency Management Director and the Chief of Police on August 18. Each voter will receive a disposable place mat and a disposable pen to use. ♦

vote 2020

Town Clerk/Tax Collector News

Diane M. Chauncey

On March 15, 2020, the Town Hall was closed to the public due to the COVID-19 virus. I (the Town Clerk/Tax Collector—TC/TX) was able to work remotely for many of my responsibilities and continued to work regular TC/TX hours. Residents were able to process tax bill payments, water & sewer payments, and dog licensing via the drop box at Town Hall or US Mail. Some tasks could not be done away from the office—for example, motor vehicle registrations. At the Town Hall, two computers and two printers are dedicated to processing motor vehicle transactions, which cannot be done remotely. For the months of April and May, and part of June, the TC/TX office had a “window “(created by the very clever Antrim Road Agent, Jim Plourde). Some people thought it looked like an ice cream take-out window. It worked as a way to get through without opening the Town Hall to the public. Renewals were not a problem—residents were able to follow the directions on the renewal mailer. (All residents who have any vehicle, motorcycle, trailer, camper, etc., should receive a renewal mailer 4–6 weeks before the expiration of their vehicle registrations.) For most people, it would be their birthday month. New-to-you vehicles needed more steps—a lot of back and forth—but they were manageable.

On June 15th, Town Hall was opened to the public by appointment only. Tax bills, water & sewer payments, motor vehicle renewals and dog licensing all continued to be processed by drop box or US Mail. New-to-you vehicles need to schedule an appointment—most people are accommodated in a time frame that works for them. It just takes a phone call. For the most part, people have been very understanding and willing to go along with the new “rules.” Many are liking the appointments—a designated time and no waiting. For the foreseeable future, appointments are the way it is, but if you are unable to make an appointment, every effort will be made to accommodate your circumstances.

Dog licensing—historically due by April 30. In 2020, due to the pandemic, the date was extended. Late notices went out in late June, with another thirty days to license dogs.

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Unfortunately, dog data is not always completely up to date. There is no way for the Town Clerk’s office to know that a dog has died, that a divorce has occurred and the dog went with the other person, that a marriage has happened and now the dog is under two names, etc. A phone call is all it takes to update the Clerk’s records. Civil forfeitures (state law, adding on \$25.00 to licensing fees and payable in fifteen days) went out in early August. Unfortunately, if a dog owner does not comply with this certified mail request within fifteen days, the list goes to the Antrim Police who will issue a Summons to Court. All of these dates are driven by state-mandated RSAs. It would be so much simpler and less costly if all dog owners were to timely license their dogs and let the Clerk’s office know if changes have occurred.

A kind of surprising thing has occurred during the pandemic. Because so many transactions needed to be done via drop box or US Mail, residents needed to include a self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE) in order to have their transactions returned (motor vehicle registrations, dog licenses, billing receipts, etc.). Well...there is a whole group of people out there to whom the SASE is a foreign concept. I have received envelopes with a name and address and no stamp; an envelope with the Town Clerk’s name and address and no stamp; an envelope with a stamp but no name and address; an envelope with a name, address and stamp, SEALED; and then, many with no SASE at all. I have to say, I have been very surprised by what seemed to me a simple concept. As time has gone by and I talk to residents concerning their transactions, I say, “Don’t forget your SASE.” And if I hear the slightest pause, I question, “Do you know what a SASE is?” All too often the answer is “NO,” and so I explain.

Elections are quickly coming up—September 8th (the day after Labor Day) is the state primary. November 3rd is the general election. If the COVID–19 virus is of concern to you, you may vote by absentee ballot. Absentee ballot request forms are on the *antrimnh.org* website (Home Page—“Find it Fast”—Absentee Ballot Request). The request is a two-sided form—fill in both sides and return to the Town Clerk, and your ballot will be mailed to you. Follow the instructions within the envelope. Ballot clerks are needed (\$50/day). The State of New Hampshire has issued many personal protection items (full suits, masks, shields, etc.) If you have any interest, call 603–588–6785.

Of course, I do not know what the future holds. All of us at Town Hall are working our regular hours and accommodating residents as best we can. Let us know what you need. ♦

Thank you ...

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

Reflections of a Rookie ConVal School Board Member

Steve Ullman

“The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.” Martin Luther King, Jr.

Of course, had Dr. King been writing in 2020, he would have referred to “a person,” rather than to “a man,” and he well might have pointed to Dr. Kimberly Saunders, ConVal Superintendent, and Dr. Ann Forrest, Assistant Superintendent, for their stand during the current “times of challenge and controversy.”

The unprecedented COVID–19 pandemic has placed extraordinary stress on our District’s leaders. As an inexperienced Board member, I have sometimes been overwhelmed with the complexity and the sheer number of interlocking decisions that ConVal must make. I am most grateful for the calm, knowledgeable, inspirational leadership that Kimberly and Ann have furnished. Thank you, Kimberly and Ann.

“Great occasions do not make heroes or cowards; they simply unveil them to our eyes. Silently and imperceptibly, as we wake or sleep, we grow strong or weak; and at last some crisis shows what we have become.” Brooke Foss Westcott

Kimberly and Ann have become even stronger during the current crisis and, as a result, so has the entire ConVal community. ♦



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Antrim Select Board

Bob Edwards

Covid-19 (NH State of Emergency)

We are almost five months into the State of Emergency that was declared by Governor Sununu on March 13th and our First Responders and all Town personnel have done an exceptional job stewarding the Town's business and serving it residents' in a safe, prudent and timely manner. The Select Board thanks both Town personnel and residents alike for making every effort to remain compliant with safety guidelines during these unprecedented times.

Local and State Economic Conditions:

From a local perspective, the Town's fiscal position continues to remain on budget with about 90% of real estate tax revenue received based on our July 1st receipts. The Select Board remains guardedly optimistic as we manage expenses based on projected and anticipated second half 2020 revenues. The Board is approaching budget season and we will take a longer range future view as we attempt to gauge the financial impact resulting from the Covid-19 challenges places on our local, state and federal budgets. We want to note that we all are so fortunate to have such a strong core of local retailers and other valuable service providers that have proven invaluable as we navigate through these times.

Antrim Wind, LLC:

The NH Site Evaluation Committee conducted a public meeting via remote access on July 28th. Two of the agenda items pertained to Antrim Wind Energy (AWE). First was a request from the administrator to retain technical support to review the sound monitoring report prepared for Antrim Wind Energy related to deliverables and allocation of cost. Second was to review the status of the investigation into noise complaints related to AWE Docket 2015-02; and general communication and reporting procedures for all complaints, including the disposition of complaint communications. The Administrator described her process of handling of the complaints and her communicative action. The SEC voted in favor to hire a third party consultant. Counsel for the public voiced objection as the technical process for such

review, in counsel's opinion failed to meet the testing protocol requirements as required by SEC Rules and further in the conditions of the Certificate. Several Antrim residents voiced their position that the testing process protocols fail to capture the noise impact that actually occurs if measurement standards based on SEC Rules and conditions of the Certificate were followed. The Select Board is planning to submit comments to the SEC requesting that it ensures that all post-construction and complaint driven noise monitoring are undertaken and measured in full compliance with SEC Rules and noise limit requirements as required in AWE's Certificate. Additional information is available on the SEC website.

Antrim Memorial Gymnasium:

The Select Board is pleased to announce that they have satisfactorily negotiated a final Letter of Agreement with the ConVal School Board. The Agreement defines the terms and conditions of operation to be followed between the School District and the Town of Antrim. The Agreement is subject to annual review.

2020 Census:

The Select Board also wants to encourage our residents to please complete your 2020 Census if you have not already done so. By doing so you'll help our state and town with funding that supports school lunch programs, highways, firefighters and families in need over the next decade. The benefit list is quite extensive and they help our community every day.

In summary, your Select Board wants to reiterate that we are so appreciative for our hard working town employees from all aspects of our operation and for our community volunteers who are so supportive and willing to come forward to serve whether on committees or with our so many valuable non-profit organizations.

These times remind us somewhat of what we as a community weathered thirty years ago, when Select Board Chair Bill Suydem, Jr. said in our 1990 Town's Annual report. He noted in his remarks that "the hard times, more than any others, bring us together or pull us apart. So far, the people of Antrim have pulled together and proved their mettle. God willing, we will continue to do so."

As always, please share your constructive thoughts with the Select Board, remain healthy and vigilant and let's continue our support of each other. Thank you! ♦



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was president of the United Shoe Machinery Corporation in Beverly, Massachusetts. Eric Tenney says Sidney Winslow had little interest in his New Hampshire properties and preferred to spend his spare time on Cape Cod, only indulging his wife's love of horses by visiting his farm in Francestown for a couple of weeks each summer. Stanley Tenney, however, was delighted to return to his hometown, and in 1948, he and his wife, Beverly, who taught Latin at Antrim High School, bought the farm for \$8000, and maintained a herd of about thirty-five Jersey dairy cattle. In addition to the land along the river, Stanley and his brother Forrest Tenney owned properties on Holt Hill and Patten Hill, and regularly rotated cattle and sheep between the different pastures, depending on the season.

However, the dairy industry experienced a steep decline after World War II, and especially in the 1950s, small family dairy farms struggled to be profitable. By the time Beverly and Stanley's sons, Eric and Mark, were growing up, the farm was beginning to transition from dairy to a few beef cattle. Eric says that while he was attending the Cornell University Agriculture School, they were "preaching dairy farm consolidation." When he graduated in 1965, the school estimated that a single dairy farmer needed to have at least sixty cattle to survive; five years later that estimate had doubled to 120. Since it takes about two acres to support a single dairy cow, and few New England dairy farmers have 250 acres of land available, simple economics drove most of the dairy farms out of New England.

Eric and Linda married in 1966, after Linda graduated from college. Rather than be drafted into the Army, Eric joined the Navy and they lived in Jacksonville, Florida, where Eric was stationed until his discharge in 1969. When Eric and Linda returned to Antrim, his brother Mark was just finishing college. Eric and Stanley converted the barn on Route 202 to living space, and Eric and Mark decided to introduce farm-fresh produce in 1970, which they sold at first out of the barn. Eric says their first customer was Phyllis Nichols (wife of Carrol Nichols and sister-in-law of Marty Nichols), who bought a single cucumber for twenty-five cents. Phyllis returned every day that summer and bought

her vegetables fresh. Eric adds that they only had one day in the life of the stand—a day he remembers Ruth Zwirner was working—in which there were no sales.

They sold the last of the dairy cattle in 1972, but kept a small herd of beef cattle, approximately twelve at a time. Crista says she loved animals as a youngster, and was allowed to have sheep, rabbits, and ponies. She and a girlfriend also collected abandoned cats, which lived in the barn. Crista and her cousins Ben and Amy, Mark and his wife Twila's children, grew up close to each other. The various Tenney families even twice swapped houses between the barn and the brick house on Depot Street.

Mark came back into the business in 1974, the year Eric and Mark built the greenhouses, which allowed them to offer bedding plants for the first time. They constructed the current farm stand in 1978, and started selling their "real thing" juice with the addition of an apple cider press to the barn on Depot Street. The cider press is now located under the farm stand, and people are invited to view the process in season. As Crista got older, she found she got very attached to the cattle and didn't want to eat them anymore, and the last of the beef cattle were phased out in the early '80s. Mark and Linda opened a florist shop in the farm stand in 1983 and, with the help of several other local residents, for a time had a booming business serving weddings and funerals. Crista says she attended many events to help out. The florist shop eventually became unsustainable as people's practices changed. Ben Tenney also loved helping Eric at the farm when he wasn't doing his own electrical work.

Crista says she and Chris Salamy met in earth science class at ConVal High School, where she was warned that he was a little on the wild side. But she didn't let that dissuade her. Crista went to Lesley College in Cambridge, Massachusetts, to study art therapy, with the intention of working with the elderly. Chris worked with Eric at the farm for a year and a half before joining the US Marine Corps. When Chris and Crista married in 1996, they moved to San Clemente, California, where Chris was stationed. When Chris wanted to start a family, Crista insisted that they move back to Antrim—she didn't want to raise her children alone in California with all her family back in New Hampshire. With Chris and Crista both being only children, the close family ties were important. Chris and Eric formed a partnership when Chris and Crista came back in 1998, and Eric started showing Chris the ropes. For the past five years, Chris and Crista have pretty much run the show, and Eric admits he would have sold out if they hadn't come back.

When Chris's father passed away around the time that Chris and Crista moved back to Antrim, Chris suggested using some money his father left to build an ice cream stand. Crista says she thought it was a wonderful idea, and thus, the Tenney ice cream stand was born in 2000. They made a spe-

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Four Antrim Losses

Edmond J. Hebert

Earlier this year in April, May, and June, in quick succession, Antrim suffered the losses of four veterans who also participated in community affairs.

The first loss was Edmond L. Hebert, Jr., who passed away in early April. Ed served twenty years in the Army before retiring in 1965. Ed served in Europe just after the end of WWII, spending time in Austria, Germany, France, and England, where he met his wife of 67 years, Sybil. Ed witnessed some of the atrocities the Nazis committed during the war that he would never talk about. During the Korean police action Ed served in Korea and Japan while a member of the 82nd Airborne and the Green Berets.

After retiring from the Army, Ed volunteered in community service. He served for four years in a brand-new Troop 138 in Deerfield, including one year as Scoutmaster. After moving to Antrim in 1969, Ed served another twelve years as a Troop 2 Committee member from 1971–1982. Ed was the community Santa Claus for many years, which he enjoyed tremendously. Ed also volunteered for the Antrim–Bennington Lions Club for many years and enjoyed selling Christmas Trees at Tenney’s Farm. Ed Hebert was a member of the Independent Order of the Odd Fellows where he served as the Noble Grand and the Encampment.



In early May, Antrim lost Robert E. Warren, a veteran who retired from the Army in 1968, which included service in Okinawa and Vietnam. Bob was active with the Baptist Church and volunteered with the Antrim Police Department and NH Fish and Game. Bob also volunteered with the Pack 2 Cub Scouts and the Troop 2 Boy Scouts, which included helping Richard “Mr. J” Jennison to organize the first of many Troop 2 fifty-mile hikes. Bob was also a member of the Waverly Lodge Independent Order of the Odd Fellows, the Loyal Order of the Moose, and the American Legion.

Then in late May, Antrim lost WWII veteran Martin Nichols. A veteran of the Navy, where he witnessed some of the bloodiest battles of WWII, including Okinawa and Iwo Jima, from aboard his ship, Martin also saw the raising of the American flag over Iwo Jima by the US Marines. During his time in the Navy, Martin Nichols wrote hundreds of letters home to his mother, and some seventy years later they were rediscovered and are now being preserved by the Library of Congress (see the *Monadnock Ledger-Transcript*, June 28, 2010, and the Antrim *Limrik*, Sept., 2013).

Martin served many years as Antrim’s Town Clerk with his office being in his house. He was also the treasurer for the Maplewood Cemetery Association, active with the Antrim Players, and a member of the American Legion.

Martin Nichols was probably one of the key scouts and scouters in the history of Antrim Boy Scout Troop 2, founded in 1913. Martin was a Boy Scout from 1937–39, an Assistant Scoutmaster in 1960, a Scoutmaster from 1961–64, and a Troop Committee Member from 1965–75. While he was Scoutmaster, Martin had two Eagle Scouts, the second and third Eagles (Brian Reilly and Peter Pratt). In 1980, William Nichols, Martin’s son, became Troop 2’s fourth Eagle Scout.

In mid-June Leo McQuillan passed away at the age of 74. Leo was a United States Marine Corps Reservist during the Vietnam War. Leo did a lot of volunteer work with his church and served as a Troop 2 Committee member from 1977–80.

What did these four men have in common? After serving their country they went on to serve their communities. Did you know that less than 5% of American citizens will serve in the United States Armed Forces and even fewer are willing to volunteer in their communities? Americans should honor those who serve their country and especially those few who are willing to serve both their country and their communities. ♦

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cial arrangement with Annabelle's Ice Cream in Portsmouth to supply the best ice cream they had tasted. These days, Crista says about a third of their customers come just for ice cream, a third come just to the farm stand, and a third shop at both. Corn is their #1 seller of all, but they pretty much sell the gamut of vegetables. About 75% of the produce they sell in the farm stand is their own; they also sell cards, pottery, baked goods, jellies and other products made locally. As Crista says, "There's a lot of local talent and not a great retail outlet for them, so we're happy to work with local crafters."

The Salamys have adopted an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategy, an environmentally sensitive approach to managing pests that incorporates cultural, physical, biological and chemical methods to keep pest damage to tolerable levels, while at the same time being sustainable for the long term. This means carefully rotating crops to keep diseases from building up in the soil, installing row covers or other physical barriers that prevent pest access to crops, using only the necessary amounts of fertilizers and using chemical pesticides as a last resort and in the lowest possible quantities. This also means tolerating a certain amount of imperfect produce. Crista says their wonderful corn is due to soil enrichment from the periodic flooding of the Contoocook River. (Eric says the secret is picking the corn when it is young and tender, not waiting for it to get old and tough.) Sadly, their soil appears to carry a fungus that affects strawberries, and so they probably will not be able to offer strawberries again anytime soon.

Many local kids, whom Crista says were "just fabulous," have worked at the farm over the years, but as teenagers began to have more time constraints with sports and other school obligations, it became more difficult for them to cover the busiest hours at the farm stand. The Tenneys and Salamys had worked with Brookdale Fruit Farm in Hollis to supply fruit and vegetables to diversify the Tenney Farm offerings for many years. Through Brookdale Farm, they found out about a Jamaican program to match Jamaicans seeking work with US farms seeking workers, with the connection made through the New England Apple Council. Basically, each year the Tenney Farm puts in an application at the Jamaican embassy for two farm workers. Likewise, Jamaicans looking for work apply for a lottery in Jamaica. Although it is a lottery, the Jamaicans can request assignment

to a particular farm site, and thus, Aunja Williams and Winston Frater have been returning to the Tenney Farm each spring for fifteen years. Both Aunja and Frater, as they are called locally, speak Jamaican Patois, so there is occasionally a bit of a language barrier, but Crista says, "They fit in like a glove. I love them." Chris, Crista and their sons, Hunter and Jaxon, have visited Aunja and Frater in Jamaica three times, and hope to go again, as soon as this fall if events allow. Frater lives in a remote town in the mountains in a house he has built on a steep hillside, with additions made as he was able to afford them. He has four children and numerous grandchildren. Aunja lives closer to town in a different area of Jamaica with his wife



Photo by Frank Gorga

and young daughter. Crista adds that Frater and Aunja, as well as most, if not all, of the kids who have worked for them, have become family and they would never have gotten this far without them. The Tenneys and Salamys truly appreciate all of them.

The farm stand closes down after Thanksgiving, and the only downtime at the farm is in December. By January, they are finalizing seed and plant orders and beginning to get the greenhouses fired up. Chris gets geraniums started in February and pansies in March. Hunter has also been helping a lot with planting plugs. Aunja arrives April 1 and the operation moves into full swing. Opening day varies. Crista watches the ten-day weather forecast, and if it's going to be warm and the pansies are ready to move, they'll open. By that time, customers are usually desperate for some color and want to put out anything that can safely be planted.

The Salmay boys are now growing up. Hunter, who will soon turn twenty-one, has long said he wants to work the farm. Since graduating from ConVal High School, Hunter has completed a two-year welding program in Keene, which should serve him well on the farm. Jaxon, now sixteen, is a junior, and is about to start a mechanics program at Mascenic Regional High School. He has recently begun expressing an interest in working the farm, too. Both boys have ideas for new directions for the Tenney Farm to take, and Crista says they are likely to introduce some new features at the farm stand in the next few years.

The planned anniversary festivities may have to wait until next year, but, thinking positively, Crista says it will just have to be a 51st anniversary celebration. Stay tuned! ♦

Small Town Life, Enjoying a Community Connection

What do you think of when you hear the word community?

By definition it is a unified body of individuals, a group of people living in the same place or having a particular characteristic in common, and (my personal favorite) a feeling of fellowship with others, as a result of sharing common attitudes, interests, and goals.

That feeling is the hem of our small town social fabric. It holds us together in good times and bad.

The Antrim Community Board project is a way for us all to stitch ourselves together and wrap our community in the comfort of neighbors, the support of helping hands, a friend to play with, a warm meal to share, and so many untapped resources found right here under the same piece of sky.

We all have something to give and we all need help from time to time.

When my family moved to town in the early '80s, my parents knew there was something special about this area. They knew it would be a great place to raise children. That feeling is still there for me and my siblings as we have come to raise our children here together.

The first thing that came to mind when I learned about the ACB project is a vision of days gone by. A time before social media and instant everything on demand. The simple treasure of a close neighbor to have tea with or help tend their garden, animals, or children. The safety of knowing the land and natural world around us. Or knowing who lives near where your car just broke down so you can knock on their door to get help because cell phones weren't an option. I remember a time when I used to ride my bike everywhere from Gregg Lake to a family up the road who needed help delivering baby goats! I remember how cool it was that all of the families in our neighborhood started a food co-op and shared resources and real in-person conversation. Growing up in Antrim was amazing. Working and living here as an adult is pretty great too.

To me the idea of Antrim residents coming together to share their talents and interests in a survey that will result in new and needed community connections sounds like a perfect way to culture that fellowship. In a time of crisis this would be invaluable. In our day-to-day life it would en-

hance a sense of well-being. For newcomers, it would give them an introduction to Antrim and help them instantly feel at home.

As an ACB Steering Committee member I have gotten to see some of the incredible assets that Antrim residents want to share in the short time the survey has been available. There are eight people skilled in fiber arts and four who want to learn. We have three folks that are interested in knowing more about auto repair and one who knows how. It's hard to believe there are only three dancers but I'm hopeful since there are six more who want to learn! Do you like the Welcome Wagon idea for new residents? Well you are not alone. Twenty Antrim residents want to be a part of that project. I have a few more goodies to share. Of the people who have taken the survey so far, fifteen would like to take a suicide prevention course and twenty-four would like to see a project that helps seniors stay in their homes longer. This is just the beginning, but as you can see there's already a lot of value here. I have heard people talking about teaching their talents to our local youth as well as just liking the idea of having someone to play cards with or connecting with someone that has shared a similar challenge or difficult experience. Human connection is an asset we can't afford to miss out on.

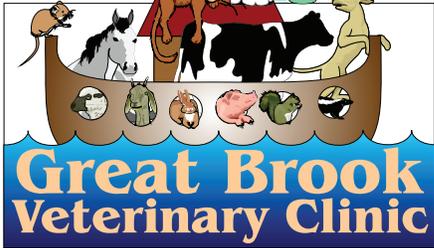
It doesn't take much time or effort to participate. Some are finding it both fun and inspiring. Please see the ACB survey insert for further details. I couldn't be more proud to talk about our awesome small town in this way. Thanks for taking the time to hear this important message.

If you would like to get more involved, we need you! There are many ways to help. You can join the Steering Committee, call or email Antrim friends and neighbors and invite them to take the survey, and the easiest way to be involved is to take the survey yourself.

Please call Gordon Allen at 588-2742 or Kristen Vance McCormick at 446-7754, or email antrimcommunity-board@gmail.com with your questions and ideas, and please take a look at our website, <https://www.antrimnh.org/antrim-community-board>.

Be well,

Rose Novotny
Fellow Antrim Community Member



Dr. Tom Dowling, Veterinarian
Route 202 North • Antrim, NH 03440
603 / 588-3460

James A. Tuttle Library

Cindy Jewett, Library Director

We hope everyone is doing well. We are back to our regular operating hours for appointments, curbside pickup, and tech help. We have temporarily changed our Friday hours to 10:00 until 4:00 to book more appointments and to accommodate more curbside requests. We will resume our Friday 9:00–12:00 hours as soon as the NH State Library Interlibrary Loan system is back up.

| | |
|-----------|--------------|
| Monday | 2:00 – 6:00 |
| Tuesday | 2:00 – 8:00 |
| Wednesday | 2:00 – 6:00 |
| Thursday | 2:00 – 8:00 |
| Friday | 10:00 – 4:00 |
| Saturday | 10:00 – 4:00 |

International Peace Poster Contest

Sponsored by the Antrim–Bennington Lions Club, this contest is open to students ages 11–13. This art contest encourages kids to express their vision of peace. We have poster paper and art supplies available in the library for check out. Everyone who submits a poster will receive a prize. Posters are due October 15, 2020.

Museum Passes

This year we have the following passes to use: Boston Museum of Fine Arts, Castle in the Clouds, Montshire Museum of Science, Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum, and NH State Park Pass. Please call to reserve a pass. You can reserve a pass days, weeks, or months in advance and you can reserve more than one pass. Have a fun day on us! Check out a Kearsarge Indian Museum pass and a NH State Park pass to gain entry to Rollins State Park. Both are located in Warner, or visit Castle in the Clouds in Moultonborough and Wentworth State Park in Wolfeboro.

Tech Help

Irritated with your iPhone? Exhausted by Excel? Worried about Word? We can help! Christopher is taking appointments for Tech Help on Monday 2:00–5:30 and Wednesday 3:00–5:30. Call to reserve a spot. As soon as we are able to, Christopher will bring back D & D on Mondays.

Pandemic Survey

Since the pandemic began we have been documenting the experience. We would love as much participation as possible. When you have time please give us a call, or go to our website for more information at <https://www.antrimnh.org/james-tuttle-library>.

Did You Know? We have ... *NoveList Plus*

Looking for a new author? Looking for a new series? *NoveList Plus* is a reader's advisory service that provides information and resources on over 100,000 titles, 75,000 full-text reviews, and more than 36,000 subject headings to help locate the best in fiction and nonfiction. You can easily

access this database through our website under the tab "Subscription Database."

NoveList Plus K–8

This reader's advisory service specifically targets children and young adults. It contains materials for all K–8 grade levels and includes picture books, children's chapter books and young adult titles. You can easily access this database through our website under the tab "Children and Young Adult Resources."

We have been asked what we worked on while we were working from home. We were very busy and we spent a total of 234 combined hours on COVID–19 updates and libraries. The staff worked on professional development and database training, we participated in the weekly NH State Library Director Zoom calls, and we kept up with the CDC guidelines. We helped our patrons navigate through our electronic resources and we cleaned up our patron and bibliographic database. When we were able to enter the building we finished inventory, moved furniture, cleaned, prepared the library for curbside pickup and appointments. For the months of April, May and June, our electronic resources (Overdrive, Hoopla, Ancestry, Heritage Quest, and EBSCO) were used 3,998 times. Last year (2019) for the months of April, May, and June our electronic resources were used 1,565 times—that is an increase of approximately 155% over last year. Thank you for using our electronic resources and please give us a call if you need help gaining access.

The much-anticipated Reopening Archives, Libraries and Museums (REALM) part 1 report was released in June and part 2 in July. The REALM Report was conducted by Online Computer Library Center (OCLC), Institute of Museum and Libraries Services (IMLS), and the Battelle Company. The initial findings were the COVID–19 virus stays on the majority of library materials for up to 3 days, or 72 hours. The reports are available on our website. We have one room set aside in the library where we clean our books, and our process of cleaning is as follows:

- Empty the book drop daily.
- Let the books sit on a shelf for 72 hours.
- Wipe the books with a CAVI or Lysol wipes and let dry.
- Wipe with water to remove the residue.
- Check in and shelve.
- We hold magazines, board books, glossy pages, and arrival folders for 84 hours.

Please give us a call if you would like to reserve materials, or make an appointment. We will be closed on the following holidays: Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veteran's Day and Thanksgiving. ♦



JAMES A. TUTTLE LIBRARY

45 Main Street, Antrim, NH 03440

Tel: 603-588-6786

Email: tuttlelibrary@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.antrimnh.org/james-tuttle-library>

On behalf of Antrim’s James A. Tuttle Public Library Board of Trustees, I would like to thank our library staff for their amazing effort throughout the pandemic. COVID-19 upended our world, and many public services simply ceased. Instead of abruptly stopping service, the Antrim library director and staff undertook a massive curbside book check-out program, including cleaning protocols ensuring safety to both patrons and staff. Thanks to their great effort and much high-tech wizardry, all services then transitioned to virtual. Without missing a beat.

Now the library is offering physical access by appointment only. Books are flying off the shelves and into the homes of our residents here in Antrim. Check out our Virtual Getaway Page on the library web page.

The governor’s announcement of guidelines for re-opening libraries in New Hampshire is prompting many questions. The trustees and director have put in place a Pandemic Interim Service Plan available on the library website that outlines multiple tiers of service, each responsive to various health and safety conditions. Securing staff safety is the top priority of this interim service plan and the determination of tiers of service.

Staff interactions and in-person services pose a high risk of virus transmission. We are taking the necessary steps to ensure we can adhere to the governor’s guidelines. The space inside the library must be rearranged to accommodate social distancing, equipment must be moved, and sufficient PPE obtained before patrons can safely access the building. When we are ready to reopen the interior of the library, we will post specific guidelines.

Given the tragic loss of life in the United States and around the world, it is essential that we continue to take precautions until further notice. Thank you for your patience and support.

Library trustees under RSA 202-A:6 (management of public library property) have the authority to mandate that people entering a town building or library wear a face covering.

Additionally, the library trustees are saddened that Margie Warner, a long time trustee, announced she was stepping down as a trustee during the midterm. We are very fortunate that the Antrim selectmen recently appointed Diane Kendall to take her seat.

Rick Wood
Chair, Board of Trustees
J.A. Tuttle Public Library
August 2020



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Harrisville, NH 03450

Greetings Bobcat Community!

Kat Foecking

My name is Katherine Foecking and I am the new principal at Great Brook Middle School. My family and I recently moved to Antrim from Dublin. My husband works in the district as a School Psychologist and we have two children, 16 and 13, who also attend the ConVal schools. This is my 12th year in the ConVal School District. I started as a paraprofessional at Greenfield Elementary School then taught fourth and first grade at GES for 6 years. I taught 8th grade Math and Language Arts for a year at South Meadow School and most recently was the Community Principal at Francestown Elementary School for the past three years. Since July 1st I have been meeting with students, families, staff, and community members to learn more about the GBS community. Everyone has been so welcoming and I am thrilled to be a part of this community.

On July 31st the district released the Reopening Plan and then on August 5th and August 11th we held community meetings, both in person and on Zoom to answer questions about the Reopening Plan as it pertains to GBS. The meetings were well attended and it was a nice opportunity to connect with families.

Beginning on September 8th, we will be welcoming our GBS students back to school five days a week. Families have the option to send their child in person or have them participate remotely. A survey was sent out to families to indicate their preference. Regardless of how students will participate in instruction, GBS is dedicated to offering robust learning opportunities for all students. Connecting with peers and caring adults is paramount as we return to school. Additionally, we will be following physical distancing guidelines and there will be protocols in place for face coverings and cleaning/sanitizing.

Although this is not the way I envisioned my first year as the GBS principal, I know that this community is strong, our teachers are dedicated, and our students are resilient. I look forward to partnering with you through this year and many to come. If you ever have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me through email (kfoecking@conval.edu) or by calling the school at 588-3360. Thanks and be well. ♦

Antrim Town Website—Calendars and Committees

Rick Wood

Back when the Antrim 2020 group gathered with over 75 people during a weekend, one common theme that kept coming up was the lack of a community calendar. Though identified as one of the top problems that needed to be addressed, ultimately there was no means of completing the project that everyone could agree on, though members of the Antrim-Bennington Lions Club deserve credit for trying.

Well, if you haven't checked out the *AntrimNH.Org* town website lately, and it wouldn't be surprising, since prior to an update last year the functionality of the page was very limited, you would find additional departments and committees like the Tuttle Library, the Antrim Historical Society and the proposed Antrim Community Board have recently been added, and not one, but two, calendars are now available. The two calendars, Public Meetings and Community Events, have become very useful tools to find out what's going on in town.

Have an event you want added? Simply send details to antrimasstclerk@tds.net. ♦

The screenshot shows two calendar sections: 'Public Meetings' and 'Community Events', both for the month of July. The 'Public Meetings' calendar lists dates 5, 12, 19, and 26. The 'Community Events' calendar lists dates 5, 12, 19, and 26. Below each calendar is a list of 'Upcoming Meetings' and 'Upcoming Events' with their respective dates and times.

| Public Meetings - July | | | | | | | Community Events - July | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|---|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | | |
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | | |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | | |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | | |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |

Upcoming Meetings:
 SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE MEETING
 July 29, 2020 - 1:30pm
 Water & Sewer Commissioners Meeting
 August 3, 2020 - 5:30pm
 Planning Board
 August 6, 2020 - 7:00pm

Upcoming Events:
 Tech Help
 July 29, 2020 - 3:00pm to 5:30pm
 Adults 30+ Basketball Pickup
 July 30, 2020 - 7:30pm to 9:30pm
 Tech Help
 August 3, 2020 - 2:00pm to 5:30pm

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Hello From All of Us at Antrim Recreation!

Celeste Lunetta

I would like to use this space to feature and thank the individuals that were instrumental to our ability to stay open and operate our parks facilities and programs this summer.

First, I want to recognize and thank Marshall Gale for his dedication to public health, and his commitment to acquiring the materials and outreach guidance we needed to keep our programs running and our facilities accessible to the public. Marshall worked incredibly hard, and he continues to be a kind and valuable resource.

Inside the Rec Department, our staff family includes some very creative, positive and special people who worked hard all the time—constantly adjusting to a shifting norm—to provide programming. Eren Pils-Martin, our department programming genius, has been creating weekly programs, both virtual and in-person. Eren has a wonderful mind, creative, energetic, curious and adventurous, and the programming she is providing for our community, from Summer Camp to Fun Squad, is outstanding. Monica Hagelberg, with the assistance of her girls, created inspiring leadership to our early treasure hunts, and has adapted to serve the Town of Antrim in whatever way she can serve best. I am very grateful for her consistently positive and helpful, can-do attitude. Molly Dishong, Cory Guzman and Lillian James all joined us for periodic programming, summer camps and Fun Squad activities.

The parks are all seeing a great increase in use, and for the remainder of this brief retrospective, I will focus on Gregg Lake Beach. The beach is a treasured park facility, and serves so many people. This season, our staff has done an incredible job in the face of a demanding and shifting landscape of expectations. Before we acknowledge our beach staff, I want to send a huge thank you to Dave and Tammy Blanchette, who started a positive trend by donating over \$1,000 to our Lake Host program payroll. This amazing contribution was quickly followed by financial contributions from other members of the Gregg Lake Association, including the Oslers, Caugheys and Schultzes. These financial donations nearly doubled our Lake Host payroll, allowing us to greatly increase our coverage at the boat launch. We are also incredibly fortunate to have several dedicated Lake Hosts who volunteer their time, and plenty of it. Michelle Caughey has stepped in this summer to organize our volunteers, in addition to spending many regular hours staffing the boat launch. Our regular and dedicated volunteer Lake Host inspectors are Michelle Caughey, Jan and Tom Boyle, Virginia Dickinson, Joan Gorga, Lucille Lacombe, Tim and Linda Morehouse and Helen Perivier. Lake Host inspectors educate boaters about aquatic invasive species and perform courtesy inspections, advocating for positive clean, drain and dry behaviors by boat owners.

Overall, our boat launch is a happy place, and boaters are happy to interact with our friendly Lake Hosts.

Heading easterly from the boat launch, the Gregg Lake Beach paddlecraft launch and pet swimming area, car parking area, point and swimming beach stretch out ahead in rural glory. This year, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we initiated many procedures to provide as safe and comfortable an environment as possible. Our staff screened each visitor that entered during our open hours, and they cleaned and disinfected all surfaces regularly. Our 2020 staff was one of the best summer staffs we've had in my twenty years as Recreation Director. This group of young people have been smart, dedicated, friendly, positive, thorough, and fun. They take their job seriously, they work hard, and they are also delightful people to be around. I have received such an incredible amount of positive feedback about this group. I am so grateful to them for the positive culture they created in the face of uncertainty, extra risk and extra work. The lead staff at the beach this year was Keenan Wilson, and he led the group admirably. Rosie Crooker and Austin Sloan lifeguarded and also served as water safety instructors—teaching swim lessons in this no-touch/physical-distancing environment was an obstacle for them to overcome...and they did it! They were mentored by our long-time friend, Mary Sawich, and we appreciate Mary coming to help us at the beach this summer. Reid Wilson worked more days than he ever dreamed of, and showed up every day with a smile and plenty of ideas! Max Shumway joined our team, and kept evolving upwards...starting as a Lake Host, then gaining his lifeguard certification. He can now work every job we have, and he does it well, with a good-humored, serene, and consistently positive attitude! Andrew Stockwell also joined our team, and is a calm and kind attendant, with attention to the details of all the extra work, and also saved me by helping with facility maintenance at Shea Field. Finally, Nikki Bell came in and covered several guard shifts and helped with swim lessons on our busiest days. Every one of these staff went above and beyond expectations to support each other, our citizens and patrons, and the facility.

Looking forward to September, October and November, please know we are working hard behind the scenes to be sure that we provide programming for people of all ages this fall. We will have youth soccer, adult exercise, and some new programs. We will release our programs after school gets underway, in consideration of the tremendous work our friends in public education are facing to get going in September. Please watch our website at *Antrimnh.org*, and also feel free to call Celeste at 588-3121.

Please stay healthy in body and mind, and we look forward to seeing you in the parks! ♦

Antrim Grange

Renee Mercier-Gerritsen, Master of Antrim Grange #98

Antrim Grange members have been meeting once a month for the last couple of months at our hall in a masked round circle setting, while practicing social distancing due to the COVID-19 concerns.

In May, a town-wide cleanup was organized by Renee and Armond Gerritsen. About twenty bags (mostly cans and bottles) were collected during this event. This was followed in June by our sponsored highway cleanup by five Grange members. We collected approximately seventeen varying size bags of trash in only this two-mile stretch. Thank you Sharon, Arthur, Beth and Armond for helping with this commitment.

Recently, we had our assessment done at our hall to find out the extent of our rehab needed, a timeline and the approximate final cost. As of this publishing, we are waiting on the final report but will post as much as we can on our Facebook page when we do get results. (*See last-minute update below, added by Beth Merrill.*)

We will be meeting this week to discuss having our annual Penny Sale this year, but not our Summah Suppah, due to restrictions. We have discussed holding our Penny Sale outside or online. I hope that I will be able to publish more details in public forums and papers as this is an important fundraiser for us yearly.

Our Grange has decided to purchase our annual dictionaries for third graders for the Dictionary Project. They will be handed out this school year when it is deemed safe to do so by the teachers.

Otherwise, Antrim Grange is alive and well. We are still trying to do for the good of others while working on getting our historic building work done ASAP.

As always, we appreciate everyone's support of our Grange and our work. If you have any questions about joining Antrim Grange or about the Grange in general, please call or text me at 603-547-5144, email me at renee_mercier@yahoo.com or message us on our Facebook page.

Thank you! ♦

Antrim Grange Hall Renovation Moving Forward

Beth Merrill

The Grange Hall Rehabilitation project, started in 2017, is moving forward finally with a critical step toward the repair of the Antrim Grange Hall. Grange members and project manager Andras Lazar met with historic building contractor, Brian Gallien of Ironwood Restoration, LLC, and Mae Williams, historic preservation consultant, for a site visit in late July. Proper social distancing was implemented as they explored every nook and cranny (including the scary, dark ones) of our historic building. Over the next few months they will combine efforts in creating a Building Needs Assessment Report, which is crucial for moving forward with the foundation work on the Grange Hall, as well as providing information critical for future grant writing as the hall rehabilitation progresses. This report is being funded in part by a grant from the NH Preservation Alliance, which receives support for its grants program from the New Hampshire Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP).

"It is a very sweet little building, and was pretty fun to explore given the three major periods of construction: 1785 for sections of the frame, 1832 for the north section, move and other renovations, and 1890s for Grange-era alterations. As someone who's really interested in changes in construction techniques these three periods represent three really different construction types, and it will be fun going through and figuring out the story of how it evolved," Ms. Williams reported. "The building does need some serious attention, but I think we should be able to break the renovations down into doable tasks and present you with a logical process for completing them that isn't *too* overwhelming."

Antrim Grange is grateful for the continued financial support of generous community members who are making tax deductible donations to the New Hampshire Grange Foundation, c/o the Antrim Grange Hall Rehabilitation account. These can be mailed to Andrew Savage, Treasurer, 837 Bennett Way, Newmarket, NH 03857. ♦

2020 Maple Syrup for sale



We have lots of 2020 maple syrup in our **Old Pound Road Sugar House**. Just call and we will meet you at the sugarhouse. We also sell maple candy and maple cream.

Note: *Old Pound Road Firewood* is sold out of firewood this year.

Old Pound Road Sugar House and Firewood

Divisions of: Innovative Natural Resource Solutions, LLC
www.inrslc.com

37 Old Pound Road
Antrim, NH 03440

Charles Levesque
levesque@inrslc.com
603-588-3272



Photo by Mae Williams

A Quiet Life

William Bryk

The gym, the library, and Town Hall were closed and my riding lessons on hold for the duration of the governor's shelter-at-home directives. So I continued walking some three miles or more a day on the back roads of Antrim, New Hampshire, the rural town in which I live.

A lot of hyper-local news appears on Facebook pages such as "Antrim-Bennington People" and "Antrim Neighbors." The struggling local weeklies haven't space or resources to cover everything and most small towns seem too unimportant for the state's dailies.

Some folks posted reports about black bears on Elm Avenue, about two miles northeast of my house. Then a bear raided a garbage can on Old Pound Road, about a mile west. One afternoon, while walking along Smith Road, about 1 ½ miles from my house, I talked with a young woman walking her dog. A few days before, she told me, a female bear with three young, one carried in her mouth, ran across the road about 100 feet east of her driveway.

A female black bear's feeding range is three miles; a male's, about fifteen. I learned this after one rainy night last month. I forgot to bring in the birdfeeders and the bird suet cage. When I looked out the kitchen window next morning, the feeders were gone. I stepped out. Something had bent the iron staff which had held the two feeders. One feeder

was intact on the ground. The visitor had carefully lifted the lid, poured out the seed, and eaten most of it. The other feeder had been crushed and torn apart. The suet cage had been torn from its chain and twisted open.

I bent the staff to a semblance of verticality and picked up the wreckage. I saw a large path crushed through the bushes and flowers on the small rise leading to the birdfeeders. All this suggested a visit from a black bear, *Ursus americanus*.

Later, while walking from the house to the barn, I noticed a large mass of excrement, peppered with bird seed, in the grass along the driveway. I went online and found several images of bear waste that resembled the stuff near my barn. Perhaps the bear ate our bird food, destroyed a feeder and the suet cage, and left a farewell present some thirty feet from my house.

Anyway, I now carefully bring in the bird food at dusk.

The term of art for bear waste is "scat." The word, derived from the Ancient Greek σκῶρ (*skōr*, "excrement"), is the general term for the spoor of wild carnivores. Animal excrement is described by a variety of terms: for cattle, dung; deer, fewmets; otters, spraint; seabirds or bats, guano.

For horses, it's manure, also called road apples. In 1880, in the age of horse-drawn transportation, New York City had at least 150,000 horses, each generating about twenty-two pounds of manure daily. The result: over three million pounds daily; over 100,000 tons per year, and ten million gallons of urine every day. Imagine the smell. The Age of Innocence was more soiled than one might think.

Antrim's several modern town histories include numerous late 19th and early 20th century photographs of horses hitched to parade floats, delivery wagons for the butcher or the blacksmith, or the U.S. Mail wagon in spring, summer, and autumn and sleigh in winter. For Antrim it was the American Express, not the Wells Fargo, wagon that was "a coming down the street."

When those photographs were taken, the automobile was unknown or almost unknown, at best something infrequently mentioned in newspapers. Antrim's farmers still worked their fields with teams of oxen or draft horses. Yet within a generation, say, by 1920, the day of animals in agriculture and in transportation, which had lasted some 5,000 years, was drawing toward twilight, even here.

Until the beginning of the 20th century, the U.S. Post Office delivered the mail only as far as the local branch Post Office. Residents then had to pick it up in person, which for farmers meant a long trip to downtown. That was an improvement over the 18th century's mail carriers' practice of dumping all the mail for a given town on a table in a local tavern or country store, to be examined by any passerby.

In the 1880s, the National Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, better known as the Grangers, began lobby-



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- Patricia Alexander, Daughter of Scott-Farrar resident Priscilla Bourgoine

INDEPENDENT LIVING, ASSISTED LIVING, AND MEMORY CARE

— continued on page 18

A Message from the Elves

Operation Santa has been serving the needs of local children for over sixty years. Alycema Flanders, now in her eighties, says “my first involvement came when I was in my twenties and Jane Hill was overseer of the poor. At that time she would obtain gifts for the children she knew were in dire straits and deliver them. For some reason she needed help that year and asked me to do it, and we never looked back. It just continued to grow over the years.”

The people of Antrim and Bennington have provided coats, snow pants, boots and gifts to an average of seventy children each year. We never know how many applications will cross Santa’s desk. A small and dedicated group of elves get together to sort gifts, shop and fuss over many of our town’s children. We examine their wish lists. We search all over for the right-sized snow boots. A flurry of texts goes back and forth between elves. “I found the game for that 11-year-old boy!” “Did the little girl want pink or purple sneakers?” We do this with 10 p.m. coffee and chocolate fixes and most of all with joy for being able to provide a great holiday season for our town’s children. We do it every year without fail.

The elves and members of the Antrim–Bennington Lions Club have been meeting this summer to answer one question. How do we help Santa deliver presents to our children? And how do we do this safely? We know how this will happen. We will accomplish this task with your continued help and generosity. The Antrim–Bennington Lions Club and Operation Santa are grateful for your continued support. Here is how you can help this year:

Traditional Giving

Operation Santa Giving Trees will be in the traditional places—Trends of Fashion, Bank of New Hampshire and Antrim’s Tuttle Library. Take a couple of tags and shop away! Unwrapped gift drop-off will be at the same places.

Monetary Giving

On the Giving Trees there will be donation envelopes. Please take an envelope if you wish to contribute monetarily. No amount is too small. There will also be donation wreaths at GEP Dodge Library and the Bennington Garage.

No-Contact Giving

We’re also addressing our challenging times with a new no-contact tag request and shopping protocol. Here is what you can do. Operation Santa has created a dedicated email address: *AntrimOperationSanta@gmail.com*. Send an email with your request; an elf will get back to you with tag information. Shop online and have it delivered to a local elf address. Details will be sent to you if you choose this method. ♦

Operation Santa 2020 Could Use Some Help

Rick Wood

Due to the “new normal” the Antrim–Bennington Lions Club will be challenged this year to support the Operation Santa program. If you’re not familiar with Operation Santa, there is a dedicated team that sends out applications every year through local elementary and middle schools offering parents who may not be in the best of financial situations, affecting their ability to give their children a special Christmas, to sign up for a Christmas present sponsored by Operation Santa. Applications are also available at Bank of New Hampshire. Operation Santa relies heavily on donations not only from area Giving Trees and Lions Christmas Tree sales, but also from funds that would have been raised from the Antrim Home & Harvest Lions Barbeque sales held every year at Tenney Farm.

As you probably know by now, the Antrim Home and Harvest Festival was cancelled this year. The good news is the Lions WILL be selling Christmas trees as usual this year and the Giving Trees will still be available at the Tuttle Library, Trends of Fashion and Bank of New Hampshire. Over the years Operation Santa has been able to provide as many as 80–100 children at least a little hope of a better Christmas. The Lions have raised as much as \$2,500 a year for Operation Santa that will not be available this year.

Operation Santa and the Antrim–Bennington Lions Club are asking for help to bridge the gap. If you’re able to go to one of the above-mentioned Giving Trees to either offer a child’s present or dollar donations, you will go a long way to help ensure a child has a better Christmas this year, when we anticipate having more requests than normal due to uncertain economic conditions.

If you cannot go, or are not comfortable going, to one of the Giving Tree locations, or if you prefer to mail a donation, please send your gift to:

Operation Santa
155 Keene Rd,
Antrim, NH 03440

The Lions Club will acknowledge each donation using the return address on the envelope.

If you have any questions please contact Antrim–Bennington Lions Club member Rick Wood at *rd_wood@comcast.net*. The Lions Club is a Section 501(c)(3) organization. ♦



Gregg Lake Loons—An Update

Frank and Joan Gorga

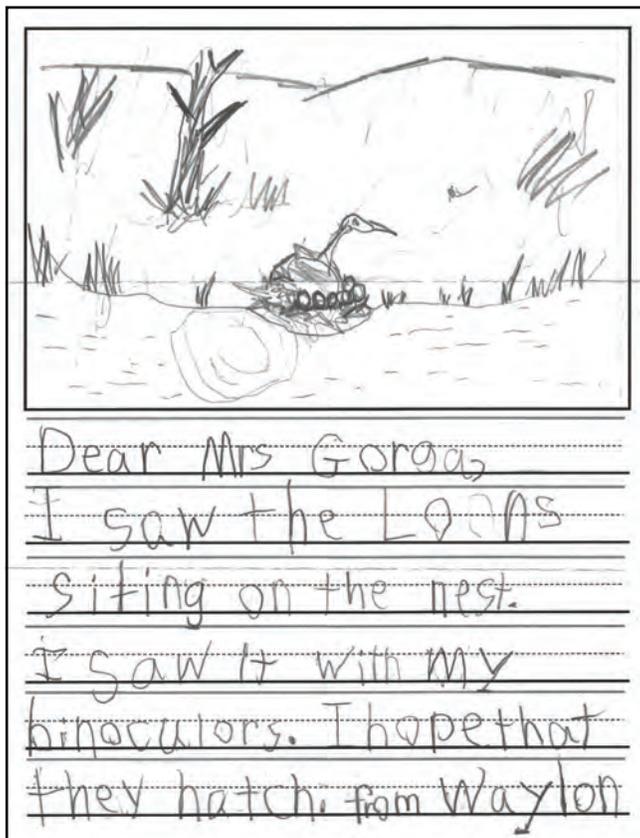
Gregg Lake welcomed two loon chicks on June 11, and they have provided summer-long entertainment for many town residents. Within an hour after the chicks were first sighted, a bald eagle was seen circling over the nest, and the distress call from the loon on the nest quickly brought the other adult loon back to the vicinity. Before too long the eagle moved on and the watching humans finally took a breath. Apparently one shouldn't assume that an eagle will easily win a battle over a loon chick, though; an eagle with stab wounds the size and shape of adult loon beaks was found dead beside a dead loon chick in Maine.

A week or so after the chicks were first seen, the parents moved them from the nest area in the wetlands north of the causeway to the main part of the lake, where the fishing is better, and the loon family has been there ever since. It was great fun to watch the parents stuff the chicks full of little fish until the chicks refused to take any more. Only then did the adults down the fish themselves. And it was easy to see how the chicks could grow so fast. They learned to peer into the water and take short dives and then began to come up with their own fish, while still begging to be fed by the parents.

Many times, the distress call went out, and we looked up to see an eagle passing overhead. Once we watched an eagle land in a tree and observe the loon family from its perch, but it never got the opportunity to swoop in on an unguarded chick and eventually moved on. Motorboats and jet skis also elicited distress calls, especially if they got too close, but the loons did not seem to be bothered by kayakers.

One day while paddling near the public beach I heard a distress call from an adult loon near the White Birch Point beach and watched the second adult quickly fly in to join the first, but I couldn't find the chicks anywhere. The adults continued with loud distress calls and I spotted an eagle moving into the area. The eagle swooped down over the loons to water level, circled around and swooped over again, while the loons continued to call. Then, from the water right beside my kayak, I heard a couple of low response chirps. The chicks were using me for cover! I resolved to stay right there until the eagle moved off. Luckily, before I had to figure out how to whap a swooping eagle with a kayak paddle, the eagle flew off to the south and the chicks headed for their parents.

As of mid-August, the chicks were nearing the size of the adults and beginning to get flight feathers. They were spending much more time fishing on their own. By mid-September, the chicks should be completely independent and may be practicing flying. The parents are likely to leave for the ocean, where they spend the winter, and the fledglings will follow a few weeks later. The young loons will spend at least the next two summers on the ocean before they head back to inland lakes, and may not begin breeding for a few more years. ♦



ing for mail delivery to all individual homes. They were opposed by tavern keepers, merchants, and express companies, each fearing a loss of business. Yet in 1893, thanks to Thomas E. Watson, an eccentric Populist and U.S. Representative from Georgia, Congress enacted into law Rural Free Delivery. It took time to implement. But by 1902, mail was delivered to individual homes across America, and farmers became less isolated from the rest of the world. RFD, by the way, is the most unprofitable service provided by the American postal system.

Parenthetically, Antrim still has a Grange, performing numerous community services that a frugal town government cannot afford and a parsimonious state government will not provide.

During every walk, I noticed new things and changes in things previously observed. The omnipresent gurgle of run-off streams from melting snow flowing into culverts under the road; collapsing barns and weathered paddock fences, suggesting horses had lived there long ago; the numerous stone walls lining the roads and running off into the woods, often for miles and miles. There were once over a quarter-million miles of stone walls in New England.

This part of Antrim had once been farm country—a few large farms raising cash crops and cattle, and dozens, if not hundreds, of subsistence farms, where families lived on what they could raise and bartered what they could to supplement their food, shelter, and clothing. Today's woods are largely second-growth—photographs from the last half of the 19th century show relatively few trees. The woods then had been largely cleared for farmland. The stone walls divided the plots, some very small, worked for the small farmers' survival or separating a farmer's cattle from his crops.

Then it ended. Some local historians date the change to as early as the 1830s, when Antrim's mills first appeared along the Great Brook and the North Branch River. Others hold it began at the turn of the 20th century. I speculate the transition began with the Civil War, when dozens of Antrim's sons marched off to preserve the Union. For many, used to their parents' bartering produce for goods, the war may have provided their first exposure to the cash economy. They mingled and talked with soldiers from other towns and states. They saw other towns and states.

To risk anachronism, a World War I hit song asked, "How ya gonna keep 'em down on the farm after they've seen Paree?" Many soldiers may have come home only to say goodbye and leave for the city. A 12-hour a day job in the mills, six days a week, was easier than the endless, year-round, 18-hour day labor of farming. Without heirs to the land, the farms were gradually abandoned, first to pasture, then to woods. The land returned to nature. Only the stone walls remained.

I went walking very late one afternoon, toward dusk. As I approached the intersection of Clinton Road and Old Pound

Road, an animal cautiously emerged from the underbrush to the south: low to the ground, too large to be a cat, with orange-red fur and a long bushy tail. He noticed me and accelerated across the road and into the woods, heading north up Meetinghouse Hill. Later, I checked. I'd seen my first fox.

I turned to go home. Twilight. It was now dark between the trees. About halfway home, I passed the house where lives Tempi, a golden retriever mix who loves to bark at me while wagging her tail. She was inside. Some rabbits hopped about the property: small, fuzzy, cute cottontails, the kind one's tempted to call bunnies and leave it at that. They moved just fast enough to avoid me if I was a predator. From the road, there's a clear view west, past the house across a valley. Against the blood-red sunset stood wind turbines, their blades slowly revolving, towering some 480 feet over Tuttle Mountain. Some neighbors dislike them; others see them as an essential step in New Hampshire's transformation to renewable energy. My response is aesthetic: they're majestic.

I recalled something read in college. Nearly a century ago, the poet Stephen Spender was inspired by the sight of electric transmission towers and lines striding across the English rural countryside to compose "The Pylons:"

*But far above and far as sight endures
Like whips of anger
With lightning's danger
There runs the quick perspective of the future.*

I walked on. The woods are nearly uninterrupted on both sides of Clinton Road, past my nearest neighbor a quarter-mile from my house. Suddenly, about fifty feet to the west, something large crashed through the underbrush, heading away from me. Clearly, not a deer, coyote, or fox: they move silently. It certainly wasn't human: a person hitting trees as hard as this creature would have screamed a succession of expletives as they ran. Perhaps the black bear who had feasted on my bird food was lumbering through the woods. Black bears try very hard to avoid humans, except when humans make edible things available, whether garbage or bird seed. Even then, they rarely attack us. They are completely unlike the grizzly bears in the Rockies, so large that they view humans as just another item on the menu.

Then I saw the lights of my house through the trees. The frogs in our pond were croaking loudly in search of love. I turned into the driveway.

In late April, the governor of Vermont reclassified riding stables as essential businesses. My instructor teaches at a large stable in Guilford, Vermont, as well as her own stable in New Hampshire. She invited me to take lessons there. It was only about 65 minutes away. I accepted the invitation. As Winston S. Churchill wrote, "No hour of life is lost that is spent in the saddle." ♦

Plan B: Festival of Trees

Kristy Boulé

At a time when many people have been struggling with the restrictions of our COVID-19 world and all its implications, we had hoped to be able to produce a scaled-back version of our Festival of Trees to provide the community with a semblance of normalcy and a momentary escape from our daily COVID lives. Most of us will likely be facing a very different holiday season. Unfortunately, due to the restrictions of the times and protocols at the Library, we'll be unable to have any kind of a Festival there this year.

BUT...we're on to Plan B! We want to bring some light to an otherwise dark time and "*Light Up The Town.*" Plans and procedures are in the formative stages, but basically, we'll be encouraging our greater community to place holiday lights on their homes and yards, perhaps on a tree outside, icicles on the eaves or candles in windows. This could be expanded to businesses, organizations, and groups. Perhaps there will be prizes or scavenger hunts. No problems social distancing while doing a light ride!

Details will be forthcoming. Watch for notices on the Town Calendar, our website AntrimFestivalOfTrees.org or via our pages on Facebook or Instagram. If anyone has suggestions or ideas to share or would like to help, shoot me an email at AntrimFOT@gmail.com or call 831-1802. For now, I'm off to the barn to untangle some lights! *Let's Get Lit!* (*Taglines to be determined). ♦



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Antrim-Bennington Lions Club

Nancy Blair

Greetings during these difficult times from the AB Lions. We are very disappointed that we will not be seeing all of you at the Home and Harvest Barbecue this September as Home and Harvest has been canceled. As this barbecue is one of our biggest fund-raisers for the year, fund-raising discussion has been the focus of most of our meetings as of late. It is imperative that we find different ways to raise money as our focus for this fundraiser is Operation Santa. With loss of jobs and furloughs, this year may be considerably challenging for parents to come up with gifts to make the holidays for their children happy ones.

Another big fundraiser for our club is Christmas tree sales. This will still take place at our usual venue. So come on out and help the Operation Santa cause with the purchase of a tree! To quote another Antrim resident we all know and love, "Everyone needs a little Christmas," especially this year!

In addition to our fund-raising brainstorming, we continue to have speaker meetings via Zoom on the third Tuesday of the month. During the month of September, Heather McKernan, publisher of the Ledger-Transcript will join us for an informal discussion about what she does at the paper, how she got there and anything else we would like to ask her!

We have found out that there will be no vision screening by the Lions Clubs this fall. Again, we are extremely disappointed not to be able to carry out this project, which is of great value to our community. It is challenging times for all of us and as President of the Lions Club, I would ask for your support in any and all endeavors pursued by our club. WE NEED YOU! Please consider joining us and lend your support. For information contact Nancy Blair at 588-8015. Stay safe! ♦

Mailing Covid-19 Absentee Ballots

All mail (including Covid-19 Absentee ballots) mailed in Antrim is sent to Manchester for processing then returned to Antrim for delivery. Mail is picked up in Antrim daily at 6:45 AM and 4:15 PM and on Saturdays at 6:45 AM and 11:45 AM.

Mail your Primary Election (Sept. 8th) Covid-19 Absentee ballot **no later** than Wednesday September 2.

Mail your General Election (Nov. 3rd) Covid-19 Absentee ballot **no later** than Wednesday October 28.

Mail early to be sure your vote is delivered and counted! ♦



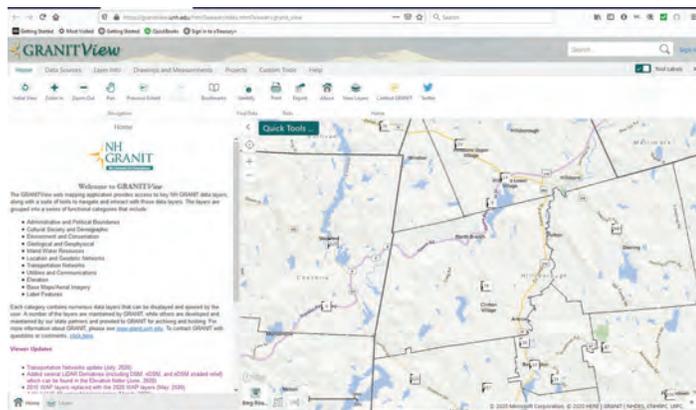
— LIMRIK WEBSITE —
www.ANTRIMLIMRIK.org

GRANIT—A great mapping resource for Antrim (not a rock)

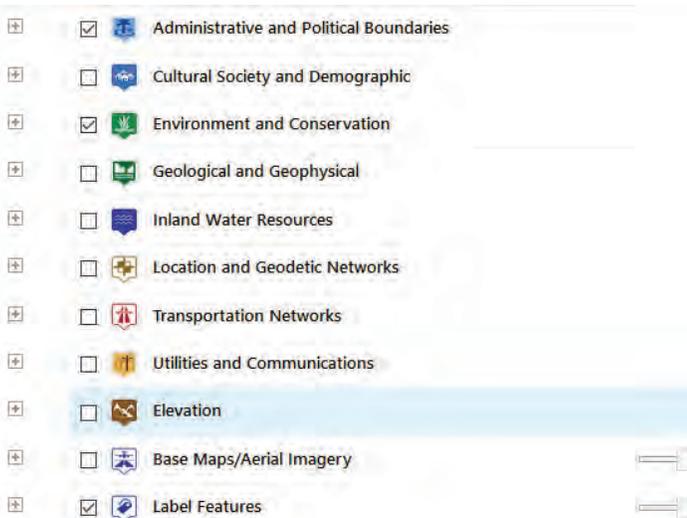
Charles Levesque

Do you ever want to see what kind of natural resources or other physical features we have in Antrim with a map? There is a wonderful free customizable map-maker at the UNH GRANIT website at <http://www.granit.unh.edu/>. When you get to this website, choose “Online Maps and Services” and then “GRANITView” (https://granitview.unh.edu/html5viewer/index.html?viewer=granit_view).

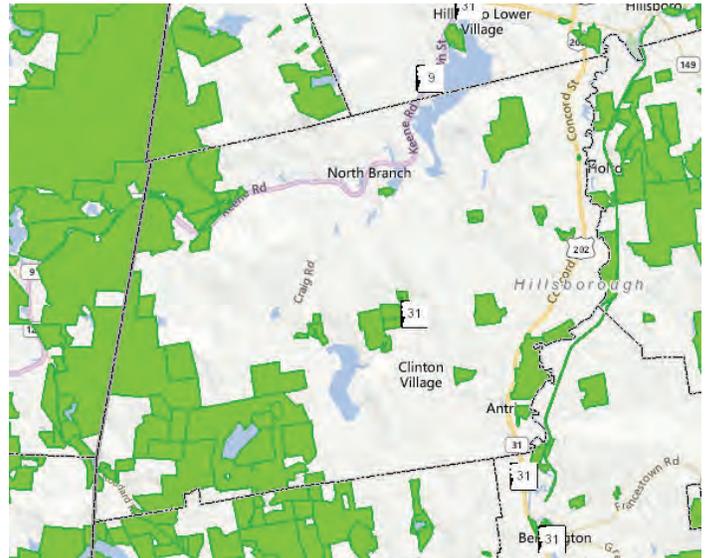
Now you are nearly ready to start to develop maps of your own with the capability of saving them and printing them out. It is very easy. You can use the map statewide or you can zoom in to a smaller portion of New Hampshire, like the Town of Antrim. If you want to just look at Antrim click on the “Zoom In” function and then use your computer mouse cursor to draw the area around Antrim (left click and then pull down or up to create a rectangle or square around the area you want to zoom in on). An easier way is to simply center the area you want to zoom in on and use the wheel atop your computer mouse to zoom in and out.



OK, so you are on the site and have Antrim reasonably framed in the viewing screen like the map above. Here’s where the fun begins. Click on “View Layers” on the top menu. Here’s what comes up:



Here is where a wealth of info is at your fingertips and you can control what you see for Antrim. Click on the “+” button on any of the feature layer lines—a detailed list comes up. Click on “Environment and Conservation” (first click on the “+” and then the box by Environment and Conservation). Now click on “Conservation and Public Lands” and here’s what you get:



That’s all there is to it. Play around with it, and if you get a map you want you can print it out. You can even save your project to view another time.

I’ve given you just a quick start with using GRANITView. It is so much more powerful than what I’ve given you a taste of. Click on “Help” to get a wonderful full “How-to” on using all the functions of GRANITView.

Enjoy.

Charlie Levesque, a NH licensed forester and natural resource consultant, can be reached at 603-588-3272 or levesque@inrslc.com. ◆

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Antrim's Glacier: A Reconstruction

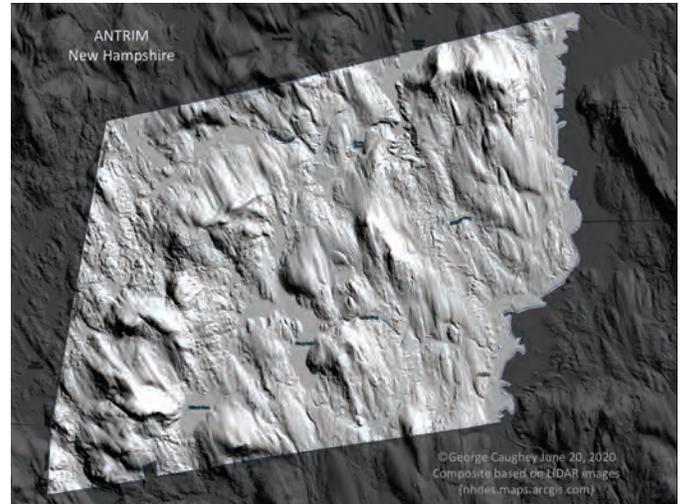
George Caughey

While we are in the dog days of summer—beset by heat, humidity, deerflies and the occasional hurricane, and thinking more than usual about the progress of global warming—it may be soothing to ponder that it wasn't always thus. Not so long ago, Antrim was cold, leafless, and entirely covered by a thick layer of glacial ice, which was responsible for much of the town's present look and feel, including lakes, bogs, sandbanks, gently sloped hills, and vast inventory of rocks. Although Antrim is not now ice-bound, climatological records suggests that we have the transient good fortune to reside in one of many interglacial interludes—which tend to be brief on a geological time scale—and that, as in the past, the ice will return, notwithstanding near-term *Homo sapiens*-assisted increases in the planet's average temperature.

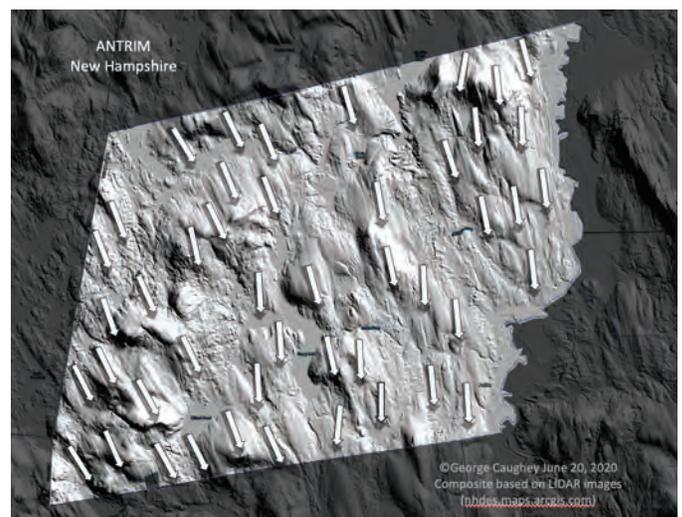
Several questions about Antrim's ice cap come to mind: for example, where was it from, how thick was it, and when did it melt? Antrim's most recent glacial ice, like that covering the rest of New Hampshire and eventually all of New England and much of the American Midwest, crept down from Canada in the Laurentide ice sheet, which may have been the planet's largest at one time. At its maximum, the sheet extended south of New York City. Its eastern edge was well off New Hampshire's present shoreline (keeping in mind that sea levels were much lower when so much more of the earth's fresh water was captured in ice). Long Island, Cape Cod, Nantucket, and George's Banks (now underwater) are remnants of continental scrapings collected at the sheet's edges. The Laurentide sheet is thought to have advanced and retreated from New Hampshire and much of North America multiple times in the past two to three million years. Even in these warm times, the sheet is not entirely gone, for Baffin Island hosts a remnant, perhaps biding its time. The latest advance occurred between about 95 and 20 thousand years ago, followed by a retreat over thousands of years. The ice sheet was about two miles at its thickest but thinned out toward its edges. The weight of the ice was so great that in many areas the land rose hundreds of feet after deglaciation. During the glacier's heyday, New Hampshire was completely covered, with no peaks tall enough to poke through the ice sheet's surface.

In this connection, I was intrigued to read Taylor Hodgdon's 2016 UNH Geology Master's thesis (<https://scholars.unh.edu/thesis/873>), reporting use of beryllium surface dating to estimate when some of New Hampshire's iconic peaks became re-exposed to sun and air as the ice receded. These measurements, combined with other data, allowed him to create a timeline for glacial retreat, as well as to estimate changes in ice thickness over time. According to this and other models, retreat of ice from New Hampshire proceeded in a northerly and westerly direction over more than 2 thousand years. In our region, the top of Mt. Monadnock first re-appeared above thinning ice about 15,400 years ago. At

that point, Antrim still was covered to a depth of about half of a mile (compared to about one mile in northernmost New Hampshire). It took another 500 years or so to clear Antrim of ice, except, perhaps, for pockets of buried "dead" ice destined to become kettle ponds, such as our own Lily Pond.



As hosted on the GRANIT website (granit.unh.edu) or on the NH Stone Wall Mapper website (nhdes.maps.arcgis.com), LIDAR images reveal Antrim stripped of vegetation, much as might have appeared shortly after retreat of the ice sheet. The long axis of drumlins and glacially scraped ridges predicts the direction of ice sheet movement over land. In idle moments I used composite LIDAR images of Antrim to predict the direction of ice sheet movement (arrows in figure). In Antrim's western third, especially near Willard Pond, the ice appeared go move in a southeasterly direction, whereas south of Gregg Lake the ice proceeded straight south. Numerous other large-scale glacial features also are apparent, including eskers, sand banks, ice-carved ponds and lakes, flood channels, ice-smoothed hills, and deposits of transported boulders, providing a view of Antrim at once strange and familiar. ◆



The Baby Squirrel

A CALEB AND WEBSTER, SUPERHEROES, ADVENTURE

Susan Ellsworth

Caleb was in the bedroom he stayed in at Grandma and Grandpa's, playing with his barn and farm animals with his dog, Webster. They were playing "time to plant some vegetables for spring" for them and the farm animals to eat. He took the little play farmer and put him on the tractor to till the soil to get it ready to plant the seeds, like he saw his Grandpa Richard do with him in past years. He liked to work in the garden with his Grandpa Richard. Grandpa would show him how to dig the holes, plant the seeds and cover them over with soil and water them. Grandpa Richard had a big vegetable garden with many different plants in it. The part Caleb liked best was that the plants or their fruits were all eatable. He also liked that Grandpa Richard let him help even though he was still little. Grandpa said, "You are never too young to watch and learn."

Caleb and Webster liked being in the vegetable garden—there were so many things to look at and care for and watch grow. There were weeds to pull, plants to tie up so they didn't drag on the ground, lots of things to water and—their favorite part—there were things to eat. Webster loved to eat the blueberries, strawberries, blackberries and raspberries right off the plants with his mouth. Caleb loved to pick them and eat them in a different way—Caleb used his hands. There was a lot of work to do in a vegetable garden, and Caleb loved spending that time with Grandpa and Grandma.

Grandpa made some fun things to use for the garden. He made a rain-catcher barrel that would store the rain water, and he put a spigot on it to turn the water on and off. Grandpa even had a plastic garbage can that he used to make a secret tea for the plants. It wasn't real tea, but fertilizer. It was Grandpa's secret, and it made the plants grow big and strong.

Caleb heard Grandpa calling him to see if he wanted to help in the garden that day, and he went out to join Grandpa in the garden. After a while, Grandpa asked Caleb if he was hungry. He said, "Yes." Grandpa said he was, too, and that he would go in and help Grandma make lunch. He asked Caleb to keep picking the lettuce and said he would be back soon.

While picking the lettuce in the garden, Caleb and Webster saw a baby squirrel. He looked like a young baby and he was all alone. There was no mommy or daddy squirrel anywhere to be seen. The baby squirrel came over to Caleb and Webster and asked them to help him. He said he fell out of his nest but didn't know what tree it was in. He was trying to find his parents, who went to find him food. The superheroes told him they would help. They were now wearing their superhero capes and had superpowers. They went from tree to tree looking for the baby squirrel's nest. Along the way they asked birds, bugs, turtles and frogs if they knew where the squirrels lived, but none of them did.

Suddenly they saw a mommy squirrel and asked if she knew the baby squirrel, but she didn't. She told them to try in the neighbor's yard. The baby squirrel was hungry, thirsty and very tired by then, so Webster told him climb up onto his back and he would carry him. They walked and walked looking up at all the trees for nests that would be big enough for a squirrel family. The baby squirrel fell asleep on Webster's back. In the distance they heard a squirrel crying. They walked towards the noise to see if it could be the right squirrel. Since the baby was asleep on Webster, Caleb flew up into the tree to ask the mommy squirrel why she was crying. She told him she and the daddy squirrel went to find food for their baby and when they came back to the nest, he was gone. She said the daddy squirrel was out looking for him now.

Caleb told her that he had great news. He told her he had found a lost baby squirrel and said to come with him to see if it was her baby. The mommy was so happy and excited she ran down the tree faster than Caleb could get down to Webster. There on Webster's back was her sleeping baby. Within seconds the mommy squirrel called the daddy squirrel by making a noise with her nose. He came running as soon as he heard her. They were so happy and grateful. They thanked the superheroes and took their baby up the tree to their nest to welcome him home. Before they got too far, the daddy squirrel returned with acorns for each of them as a thank you for finding and caring for their baby.

"Caleb, Caleb, wake up; it's time for lunch." Caleb was fast asleep under his favorite apple tree with Webster. Caleb told Grandpa how he and Webster found the baby squirrel and brought him back to his mommy and daddy. Grandpa told him he must have been dreaming because Grandma was watching him out the kitchen window the whole time he was sleeping. Caleb looked at Webster, and he opened his hand and found two acorns.....???? ♦



Dad, What's a View?

Joan Gorga

This is my ninth year of doing volunteer work for the New Hampshire Natural Heritage Bureau, part of the NH Division of Forests and Lands. Basically, we volunteers are sent out to monitor rare or endangered plant populations across the state. To protect the plants from harvest or other damage, we're not allowed to divulge exactly where we're going or what plant species we're looking for, but suffice it to say that I've been sent up steep mountain cliffs, down precipitous slopes over Connecticut River rapids, and out to river islands where the current was so swift, I wasn't sure I'd be able to make it back upstream to where I'd left the car, and had to make backup plans to take out eight miles downstream. I've clung to a small birch leaning out over a 500-foot drop to search with binoculars for the plant I was told should be there, even though by that time had no intention of climbing down to it if I did see it. I've stepped gingerly through landfill garbage, walked far out onto a floating peat bog—heeding the warning to watch my step because I could easily find myself swimming in deep water—and bushwhacked over talus slopes, which I was only later told were rattlesnake territory. My trail GPS has become my best friend, although I have been in New Hampshire canyons where I had to wade far out into a rushing river to pick up a satellite signal, trying hard not to slip and fall, which might well destroy the GPS unit and cause me to lose my hard-won location coordinates. Many searches have been successful; some are not, but it's always an adventure. There is a certain sense of satisfaction when you search for hours and finally stumble upon the only known population of a particular plant in the United States, sporting the ripe seeds you were asked to collect (following strict rules, of course). We submit detailed reports of what condition we find the plants in (if we find them) and what should be done to manage the populations, and collect seeds if so requested.

Thus, I found myself on a recent steamy Sunday morning, hiking along a trail on a high ridge near Keene. Just before I was to drop off the trail and head into the woods to carry out that day's assignment, I met a young family

out enjoying a morning hike. The two small boys appeared to be completely in awe of me, with my hiking pants and long-sleeved shirt, binoculars and glasses hanging around my neck, bandana sticking out of a pocket, GPS hitched to a belt loop, backpack with water bottles on the side, and hiking poles. The bigger one, maybe five years old, turned to his father with his eyes popping out and said, "She's a real mountain person, isn't she?" I explained why I had my hiking poles and that I was trying to be safe since I was planning to go off the trail and didn't want to get lost or hurt. We had a pleasant chat and the boys hung on every word I said. I wished I could tell them what I was really doing; those boys would have loved it. I recommended that they take a little side trail up ahead where they could get a great view, and the whole family listened carefully as I told them where to look for the Surry Mountain Lake dam and the Keene High School athletic fields, and other sights they might recognize. As they walked off I heard the older boy say, "Dad, what's a view?" ♦

TENNEY FARM 50 YEARS



Photo by Frank Gorga

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First Presbyterian Church

Jan Howe, Pastor

Our building is closed but our ministry continues!

After several discussions and reading all the data about COVID-19, the Elders of the church made the difficult decision to continue to keep the church closed until at least November 1.

We are sorry for the inconvenience it makes for all the organizations that use our building, but our top priority is to keep everyone as safe as possible for ourselves, as well as the wider community.

Many of us have become creative in how to meet during this time. For example, the Antrim Senior Center, which met weekdays in the fellowship hall, held a masked socially-distant parking lot cookie distribution this summer that worked well. If any group with limited numbers wants to meet masked and socially distanced outside on church property, please check with us and we will make individual decisions.

We as a church continue to have live Sunday worship and adult education through Zoom, as well as having a weekly trivia night, coffee/tea chat time and socially distant kayaking outings to various locations. Anyone is welcome to join us in any of these activities. Zoom is easily accessible via computer, tablet, cell phone or land line. More information may be found on our Facebook page, Instagram (*fpcantrim01*), our website (*www.fpcantrim.org*) or by email to Pastor Jan at *pastorantrimfpc@gmail.com*.



The Revival Shop is open by appointment only with masks and social distancing. If you leave a message on the church answering service (588-2209), someone will return the call within a couple of days. We are not accepting clothing donations at this time.

We were fortunate to secure a grant through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) to support the work that is being done through COVID-19. The Elders decided to thank our first responders for all they do on a regular basis, as well as the extra work involved at this time, so we have supported the Police, Fire and Ambulance Associations. In addition, we used funds to support two of our local organizations who reach out to the community that we support on a regular basis; The Grapevine and CONVAL END 68 each received a financial donation. We also created 25 care

packages, which were distributed to senior citizens. These packages included paper towels, toilet paper, hand sanitizer, a face mask (donated by Burgeon Outdoor in Lincoln, NH) and healthy snacks.

In the not-so-good news category, the church roof continues to leak in various areas, especially near the organ. In the past few years we have had professionals patch it, but the time has come that we will need to replace the roof before winter. We are continuing to get bids, but the reality is that we will need to raise \$60,000 to \$70,000 in order to complete the work properly. This is a heavy burden for us but we trust that we will accomplish this with the help of the wider community. Any donations may be sent to: First Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 186, Antrim, NH 03440. We thank everyone in advance for helping us make this major repair for an Antrim historic building that will once again become a community gathering place post COVID-19.

As our church year continues, we are in the season of Pentecost, when we spend time recognizing the Holy Spirit with us on our journeys. It is comforting to know especially during these uncertain times that we are not alone—our God is with us at all times. We are continuing to read the Gospel of Matthew, and before the next *Limrik* article we will have celebrated All Saints Day, Christ the King Sunday and the first Sunday in Advent. This year Advent begins Thanksgiving weekend, the last Sunday in November.

Once again we look forward to you joining us as we worship on Zoom, and at any of our other events, whether via Zoom or outside in person and socially distant. ♦

Antrim's Apple Crisp

There's Nothing Like It!

Bill Nichols

The Antrim Historical Society's annual Apple Crisp Sale takes on a new twist this year. For the first time we are offering **family-size pans** of pre-baked apple crisp using our traditional recipe—baked in local kitchens by conscientious chefs using best practices for cleanliness.

The sale will take place on **Saturday, September 12, 2020, at the Tenney Farm from noon to 6:00 p.m.**

Price: **\$20.00 each pan.** Add Annabelle's ice cream for \$5.00/pint or \$9.00/quart.

Please pre-order by September 5th. Call us at 588-6539 or email us at *antrimhistoricalsociety@gmail.com*.

Payment by **cash or check** on the sale date. (Please have your payment ready.)

All apple crisp proceeds benefit the Antrim Historical Society.

Antrim's Apple Crisp—*There's Nothing Like It!* ♦

Where in Antrim?

Marianne Lane, Thomas Beaumont, Sarah Devlin, Martha Brazel and George Davison all correctly identified the site of the June “Where in Antrim” photo as the pond beside “the old slaughter barn” on the brook that flows behind Great Brook School, as viewed from West Street just above School Street. George Davison added that when he was young, that’s where the kids’ fishing derby was held. Sarah Devlin won the \$25 gift certificate to Tenney Farm.

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 for Edmunds Ace Hardware. Email your response to editor@antrimlimrik.org or call 588-2569. Photo by Joan Gorga. ♦



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Play Ball!

Bill Nichols

I love perusing the archives of the Antrim Reporter to look for ideas for historical stories to share in the *Limrik*. If you've ever done this yourself, you may have experienced what is known as the rabbit-hole effect. This month my plan was to see what was happening 100 years ago, in the summer of 1920, but what I found was not very exciting. *Guy Hulett had just received 650 rolls of wallpaper to be sold at the old prices; G. H. Caughey and family returned Tuesday morning from a few days of camping at Rye Beach; Help is very scarce for haying. The women will have to do their share this year; and some guy named C. J. Larson from Hancock was looking for some cows.* No, they weren't lost; he just wanted to buy more cows. Business as usual in the Antrim Reporter.

Since professional baseball in 2020 just got started in July, I thought that baseball in 1920 might be a good topic. As I looked through the 1920 issues, I began to notice there was an abundance of information about baseball scores and stats. Not the Red Sox or the dreaded Yankees, but local baseball. Occasionally I'd see information and scores for local high school teams but the information that I was seeing on the front page of every issue were the scores and schedules of the town teams. Babe Ruth hit 54 home runs in 1920, but I couldn't find any mention of the Babe in the Antrim Reporter that year. What I did find was that game after game, the boys from Antrim could really swing the bats.

These boys, really young men in their late teens, twenties and thirties, were part of the Antrim Athletic Association. As I looked further, most of the information about the A.A.A. was found between 1918 and 1921, but the earliest mention of it was in 1906. In January of 1907, the A.A.A. was mentioned when they played basketball against Frankestown, winning 23–16 and then losing to Wilton a couple of days later 20–22. According to an issue in September 1919, the Antrim Athletic Association became a “*permanent organization and will direct the base ball and basket ball games. John Thornton has been elected captain and B. G. Butterfield manager.*”

In the May 5th, 1920 edition, the A.A.A. published its elections and reported the following; *President—H. W. Johnson, Manager—Ross Roberts, Treasurer—C. A. Bates, Secretary—C. W. Prentiss and Directors—Leo Mulhall, Byron Butterfield and John Thornton.* On Saturday, May 7, the town provided entertainment at Town Hall as a fundraiser for the team using local singing talent, bringing in juggler Fred Hart from Worcester, Massachusetts, showing the movie *Laughing Bill Hyde* starring Will Rogers and topping off the evening with a dance. The hall was filled to capacity and raised a gross profit of \$150 (equal to \$1900 in 2020), which doesn't seem bad considering the tickets were “*two for a dollar—some for less if you want.*”

After going 11 and 5 in 1919, their success continued in 1920, when the Antrim Athletics finished the season with a winning record of 12 wins and 6 losses. Their rivals were the Wilton Athletics; they lost 2 games out of 3 against them that summer. They beat Hillsboro 2 out of 3 times, including a game when Hillsboro brought in three ringers from Manchester. They beat East Manchester 3–2 and on Labor Day they lost to a team from Boston 0–3 in the morning and won 4–0 in the afternoon. They outscored their opponents 98 to 61 in 1920. Some familiar names on this team were John and Albert Thornton, Ellerton Edwards, Donald Madden and Fred Raleigh.

Fred Raleigh was born in Antrim in 1890 and lived in the house built by his father Henry in 1895 at the corner of Grove Street and Hilton Avenue. He spent most of his years working as a merchant in the local stores. Fred's great, great, great grandfather was Philip Raleigh (Riley), the first settler of Antrim back in 1744 and the namesake of Riley Mountain.

Antrim history tells us that we had organized baseball in Antrim by 1891 and possibly even earlier. In our archives, we have a team photo from 1912 and another from the mid-1890s. One name that appears in both of these photos is Cuddihy. The Cuddihys were well-known as the stars of Antrim sports for many, many years. Andrew appears to have been the oldest of the Cuddihy stars. His younger brothers John, James, Richard and Matthew were also great basketball and baseball players. Andrew was the uncle of two well-known recent Antrimites; Russell and Bruce Cuddihy. As I read more about Andrew, I realized that he wasn't just a great athlete. There was more than his athletic prowess; there was his service to his town and his country.

Andrew was born in 1877, and later in life he lived in the house on the north side of Clinton Road just before Brookcroft Drive, now known as 105 Clinton Road. If you research Andrew Cuddihy in the Antrim Reporter, you'll see that he played on both the town basketball and baseball teams and was a strong swimmer, but you'll also see that after his playing days were over, he was very involved with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in Antrim, including a stint as Noble Grand in 1922, among many other notable positions. In 1930, he also held the position of Master of the Antrim Grange. He spent almost his whole adult life, 47 years, working at the Abbott Company, which was located just up the road from his home. And although it doesn't appear that Andrew was a veteran, I found a copy of his registration card for World War I dated September 12, 1918. On the registration card is a spot for the registrar to note why the person may be disqualified from serving. On Andrew's, it was noted “*first, third and fourth fingers gone*

✍️ — continued

Play Ball

on the right hand". Here was Andrew, a 41-year-old man, missing 3 fingers on his right hand and he was registering to serve his country in the First World War. Look up fortitude in Webster's Dictionary and you may find Andrew's name printed there.

From baseball in 1920 to the great-grandson of the first settler of Antrim in 1744 and back to 1918 to a life-long Antrim resident with more talent and fortitude than most of us can only imagine, the rabbit-hole effect is real.

The amount of information that is available at my fingertips is simply amazing at times. Using my computer, tablet or even my phone, I can read an article or a story and be transported back to the times of my ancestors and beyond. To write this story, I used Antrim's history books including Whiton, Cochrane, Tibbals, *Parades and Promenades*, *A Stroll Through Antrim, New Hampshire* and the electronic versions of the *Antrim Reporter* and *Antrim Limrik*. If you need assistance with researching Antrim's historical past, please get in touch at antrimhistoricalsociety@gmail.com. ♦

SYMPTOMS

Bruce McGuffin

My throat's a little scratchy now.
Do I have some disease?
I'm waiting for my nose to run,
I really want to sneeze.
I coughed a tiny little cough.
Productive? Hard to say.
If I could just cough up some phlegm
That phlegm would make my day.
Is there some mucus in my nose?
I'm getting quite desirous
Of any clue that hints I've got
The right coronavirus.
But waiting for it's getting old.
I really hope I have a cold.

AHS Membership

The Antrim Historical Society depends on the generosity of friends in and outside the community to enable us to preserve the history of the town of Antrim. Please consider a membership in the Antrim Historical Society to help us with our endeavors. Individual membership is \$10/year and family membership is \$20/year. Please send your remittance to:

Antrim Historical Society
PO Box 172
Antrim, NH 03440

For information, contact Neil Brown by phone at 352-571-0124 or email at brownneilh@aol.com. ♦

You know you've had enough rain when you open the back door and a frog jumps in and makes a beeline for shelter in the living room.



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— Editor

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SAVORING CONNECTION: TIME TOGETHER, OUTDOORS! News from The Avenue A Teen + Community Center

Jacqueline Roland, Avenue A Coordinator

Amidst the challenges of this year, our community continues to step up and support youth through Avenue A. In June we celebrated a record-breaking NH Gives fundraising campaign. We raised over \$11,000 online in 24 hours to support our programs for local youth! Numerous community organizations rallied together to make this happen—All Saints' Episcopal Church in Peterborough matched \$2,500 in donations to our campaign! The Antrim Police Association offered a \$100 kick-off challenge, the Steven W. Crowe Foundation contributed \$500, and The Antrim-Bennington Lions Club offered a \$250 social media sharing challenge that spread the word of our campaign to over 5,000 people! Twelve volunteers led efforts to promote our campaign on social media, and the Antrim First Presbyterian Church, Bagel Mill, and the Antrim Police Department created videos to raise awareness for our campaign. Talk about teamwork! We could not be more grateful to everyone for their support!

After months of interacting virtually, the in-person, outdoor, socially distant, small-group programs we've offered this summer have felt life-giving. The joy of being together is palpable...I see it in our teens' faces, as they linger after programs, laugh together at jokes, or simply lean back in lawn chairs and take in each other's company. Our teens have shown their resilience, adapting to this new environment, respecting safety protocols, and wearing masks when necessary!

As usual, our volunteers are the heroes of this story—they pulled together to give our teens a much-needed outlet for connection while maintaining safety. I am so grateful for the care that they put into supporting our youth! Jocelynn Drew taught outdoor art for teens on the Grapevine lawn. Bernd Foecking led a bicycling group, giving teens

the chance to explore rail trails and back roads together. Cynthia West and Diana Feige facilitated our writing clubs via video call, providing an inspiring creative time for youth each week. The Harris Center partnered with us to offer a teen hiking group—teens loved learning from naturalist Susie Spikol and our hiking volunteer Harriet DiCicco! Woodworking crew leaders John Conklin and Glenn Stan were back at the Grapevine Toolshed with our teens tackling projects all summer long. Jaime Hamilton led our Life Stuff group, providing a much-needed opportunity for sharing and support. Aino Millikan taught yoga on the lawn for us, and we relaxed on Friday nights with music jams at The Grapevine's Tool Shed stage! The Antrim Historical Society and the Murdough family generously provided tents to ensure that our programs could happen rain or shine.

Coached by Brenna Martens, our Lawn Chair Drill Team had its landmark second season this summer. This year's routine brought the team to new heights with choreography set to music, break dancing, cartwheeling, and plenty of throwing, flipping, and clapping of chairs. In lieu of marching in the Home and Harvest parade, our teens offered a parking lot performance for residents at Pheasant Wood nursing home. They also performed for friends and family at the Tuttle Library parking lot. A video of our performance is available on our website.

We plan to continue offering as many programs for youth as possible this fall—in person with safety protocols in place or virtually. At the time of writing this, we are putting together our fall schedule. Please check our newly updated website—avenueatc.org, find us on [Facebook.com/AvenueATeenCenter](https://www.facebook.com/AvenueATeenCenter), or email us at avenuea@grapevინeh.org for more info. ◆



Love Embraces All Families KINSHIP NAVIGATOR AT THE GRAPEVINE

Rosemary Nugent

Remember when you were in your twenties or thirties and becoming a parent to your first child? What an exciting time! Picking out names, nursery items, ultrasounds, baby clothes, baby showers and... Fast forward thirty years. Once again, you are becoming a parent. Not quite the fanfare this time! This is what happened to my husband and me and it's happening all over the country. I'm sure many of you know someone who is in this situation. In New Hampshire alone, 12,000 grandparents are raising their grandchildren, either by adoption, guardianship or an informal arrangement. The reasons behind this are many—incarceration, neglect, substance use disorder.

When you are in this position, it can be overwhelming. What do you do? Where do you turn? What resources are available to you? These questions were answered when The Grapevine and The River Center saw a need and started a support group for grandparents raising grandchildren. I remember that first meeting in 2015. About eight grandparents sat in the room. We were scared, embarrassed, ashamed and totally overwhelmed, but we all had a common bond—the love for our grandchildren. Through the tears we told our stories and what a relief it was! We weren't alone anymore. Since that first meeting, our group has done what no one else has—given these children a voice. This support group has recently been given the name LEAF, which stands for *Love Embraces All Families*. We rallied for laws and petitioned for change to give grandparents the rights they deserved. Laws were changed and a state Senate commission was formed to study grandparents raising grandchildren in New Hampshire. I am lucky enough to

sit on that commission with many others who feel that the time has come for change. I was honored to be asked to be the New Hampshire representative for Generations United, a national organization based in Washington, D.C., making sure all are heard.

The Grapevine, in partnership with New Hampshire's Children's Trust, has begun a Kinship Navigator Program, which I lead. Now I am able to help steer other grandparents in the right direction, support them on their journey and provide resources dealing with the unknowns they may face, be it emotional, legal or financial issues. We want you to know that help and support is available. If you, or someone you know, is raising a grandchild or has taken on the care of a young relative, please have them reach out to us for information. Contact me at rosemaryn@grapevინeh.org or call Carol Lunan at 588-2620. ♦



Rosemary Nugent with her grandson and husband

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The Grapevine

FAMILY & COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

Melissa Gallagher, Director

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Well, this summer didn't look quite the way we had planned. Like many, we have done our best to be creative and continue to meet the needs of our families and community. We are still offering many of our services and supports remotely and also re-opened our facility in July, by appointment. Avenue A Teen Center offered an array of socially-distant teen programs to keep kids connected and engaged in fun, safe activities.

As of this writing, we are still in the midst of planning for fall and beyond. We are considering the health, safety and comfort of our community and families who are a part of programs. We hope to have a schedule of programs to share and promote by late August. Be sure to check our website and Facebook page for the latest updates: grapevინeh.org and facebook.com/grapevინeh.org. In the meantime, we have included some program highlights and basic information on what is still happening!

SPECIAL EVENTS

2020 Annual Fall Grapevine Online Auction November 1st–15th

We are still planning this popular fall event, but with a bit of a change. Many of our local businesses have been deeply impacted by the COVID epidemic, and we are mindful that right now may not be the best time to ask for donations. We still welcome that of course, but our focus will shift to local craftspeople and donations of time and service. We will also reduce the length of the auction this year to two weeks. Visit <https://www.32auctions.com/grapevინeh> on November 1st to join in on the shopping fun!

ONGOING PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Do you know a family that could use help with back-to-school expenses, including supplies and clothing? If so, please give us a call at 588-2620 or send an email to info@grapevინeh.org.

Before and After School Club at Antrim Elementary School: Special Announcement

For over a decade, The Grapevine has proudly offered the Before and After School Club based at Antrim Elementary School. The time has come for us to transition the program to another organization. The Souhegan Boys and Girls Club runs Before and After School programs in the ConVal district (including Greenfield, Hancock and Frankestown) and is well positioned to take on the site in Antrim, serving AES and Pierce Elementary students. If you are interested in enrolling your child, please contact Mike Goodwin, CEO, at mgoodwin@svbgc.org or 603-672-1002.

Grandparents Parenting Grandchildren/Kinship Supports

If you are parenting your grandchildren or a child relative, you are not alone. Our Kinship Navigation program is available to help and connect you to the right supports. (See Rosemary Nugent's article in this issue).

Community Wood Bank

We're always looking for volunteers to join the Community Wood Bank Team. People with chainsaws and trucks are especially encouraged, but we could really use volunteers who would like to get a good workout splitting and stacking as well. We are really in need of a splitter this year to get the yard cleaned up—if you have a splitter and/or can donate time in splitting logs cut to length that would be a HUGE help! Contact us if you have a hand to lend to this important community resource. *Please note: We are accepting only seasoned split wood at this time—please contact us before delivering wood to the yard.*

Community Tool Lending Shed—Borrow and Return 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

 — continued

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The Grapevine

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.*

Strong Living

Are you 60 or older and looking for a local, affordable, friendly way to maintain and increase your strength, balance and independence? Call us about our senior exercise program. Strong Living is held on Tuesdays and Fridays at 1:30 p.m.

THANK YOU...

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 over \$11,000! Please see the Avenue A article for more info!

We are grateful to the generous individuals, businesses and grant-makers of this community that have provided the Grapevine with continued and emergency support this summer amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, including:

Antrim-Bennington Lions Club
Monadnock United Way
NH Charitable Foundation
Southwest Airlines
Wireless Zone

Additional thanks to the volunteers who supported The Grapevine over the summer, including: **Ted "Trashy" Brown** for stepping in to collect our trash and recyclables every week, **Tom Badgley** for tending to the *Vance Family Garden*, sowing a phenomenal crop of garlic and build-

ing new picnic tables for us and **Joan Gorga** for donating plants for the *Vance Family Garden*. And, a special shout-out to the **Grapevine Board of Directors** for their extra time during COVID planning.

SERVICES AVAILABLE AT THE GRAPEVINE...

- Home Visiting Services and One to One Parent Supports
- Information and Referral—Offering connections to resources for basic needs such as food, housing, heating, clothing, medical care, counseling and transportation.
- Community Wood Bank—Opens November 1; call if you need wood, have wood to donate, or can help fill our shed.
- Community Tool Shed
- Mental Health Counseling with Winter Keeler:
www.winterkeeler.com

The Grapevine is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit family and community resource center located at 4 Aiken Street, behind the Tuttle Library. For more information call 588-2620. Tax-deductible contributions are gratefully accepted at PO Box 637, Antrim, at our website, www.grapevინeh.org, or drop by the center at 4 Aiken Street (behind the library). Don't forget to visit us at www.grapevინeh.org and follow us on Facebook at <https://facebook.com/grapevინeh.org/> and Instagram at [@grapevinefr](https://www.instagram.com/grapevinefr/). ♦

You know you've been hiding out alone in the outer reaches of Antrim far too long when you see two large dark animals coming out of the woods with people on them and think, "There are people riding on those moose!" Speaking of moose...a large bull moose was spotted swimming up the channel toward the dam at Gregg Lake one day in August. It climbed out and trotted on up Patten Hill.

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