



# The Limrik

A Quarterly Journal

For, by and about the people of Antrim.

Vol. 32 #1  
December 2022

## Antrim Awarded Grant for Beach Improvement

Gregg Lake Beach Park Improvement Committee

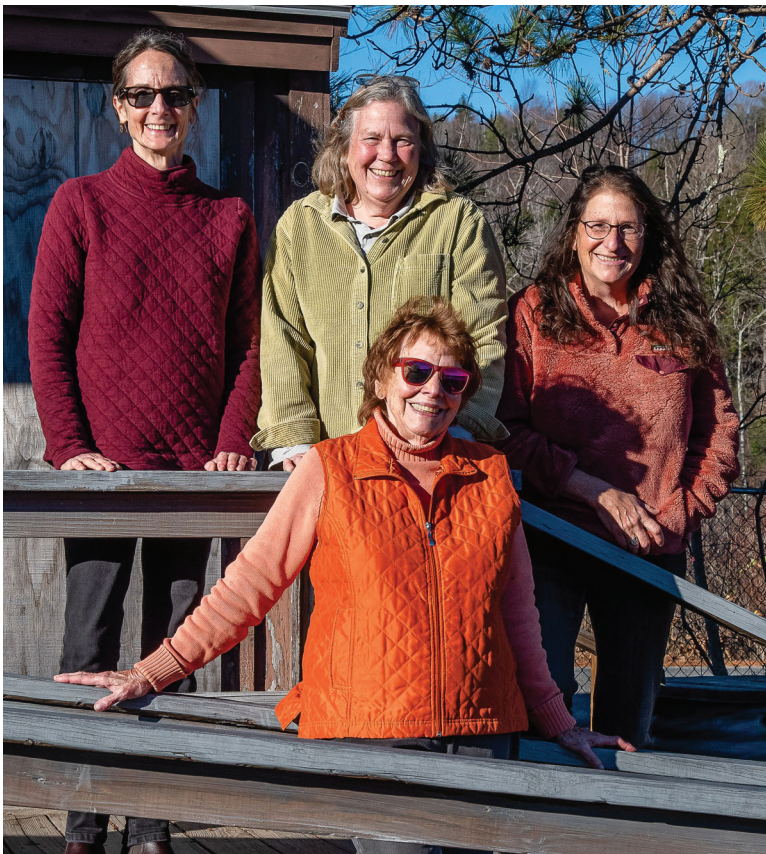
We're proud to announce that it looks like the Town of Antrim will be awarded a Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant to help pay for improvements at our Gregg Lake Beach Park. At this time, we've been selected by both the NH Department of Cultural and Natural Resources (DNCR) and the National Park Service to receive funding. All we're waiting for now is final acceptance of the federal funding by our NH Governor and Council.

As you may recall, part of Antrim's agreement with TransAlta, owner of the Antrim Wind operation, included a \$40,000 donation for "beach beautification." Thus, as we started to plan how to make the best use of that money, we quickly realized that those funds wouldn't go far in terms of meaningful beach improvements. We began to explore the option of applying for grant funding and using the \$40,000 as part of the town's match for a project that would improve and protect the beach park for the long term. Using your survey feedback, we established three main objectives as some of the most pressing needs for the park:

- 1) Rebuild the aging bathhouse to meet current needs
- 2) Improve accessibility over rough and worn surfaces
- 3) Re-vegetate and manage stormwater runoff to control erosion

Working through the process step by step with DNCR, we arrived at a budget of \$330,000 to achieve these objectives. With the LWCF grant covering 50%, or \$165,000 of the projected project cost, the plan is to use the \$40,000 from TransAlta, along with funds accrued in the Recreation Capital Reserve account and in-kind donations of labor and materials, as the town match. The committee has completed all the required searches for historical and environmental impacts, flood risks and impacts on endangered species.

— continued on page 4



The Gregg Lake Beach Park Improvement Committee: Back, Melissa Chapman, Joan Gorga and Celeste Lunetta; Front, Kathi Wasserloos; Photo, Frank Gorga

## The Great Wall of Antrim?

Beth Merrill

A retaining wall being constructed on the north and west sides of the Antrim Grange Hall, part of the ongoing rehabilitation project, has been so dubbed. In addition to the size of it, this wall has received a GREAT amount of volunteer labor from members of The Stone Trust, an organization based in Dummerston, Vermont, that works to preserve and advance the craft of dry stonewalling. The project has also benefited from GREAT examples of generosity in donations of stone and reduced rates for loading and transporting a lot of the stone that is required to build a wall as GREAT as this one, which runs approximately 50' x 20' x 7' at its highest point. A quick view of the project can be seen from your car when driving by the hall on Meetinghouse Hill Road.

Stone Trust members have traveled to Antrim this fall, one or two at a time, each for a day or two, to have the opportunity to learn or improve their skills under the direction of local mason and dry waller, Andras Lazar, and his associate Pete Ryder from Mont Vernon. Here is a sample of what these folks wrote about their experience:

— continued on page 2

# Limrik Staff

Managing Editor	Joan Gorga	603-588-2569
Business Manager	Frank Gorga	603-588-2569
Subscriptions Manager	Ann Gilbert	
Contributing Artist	Virginia Dickinson	
Page Layout & Design	Connie Kirwin	
Photo Editor	Frank Gorga	

*The Limrik was founded November 1991 by Beverly Tenney, Lois Harriman, and Nancy Timko.*

*The Limrik is published quarterly: March, June, September, and December and is delivered free to every mailing address in Antrim. The Limrik does not receive any town funds and is supported entirely by subscription and advertising revenue.*

## — SUBSCRIPTIONS —

Subscriptions are available at \$20 for one year and \$35 for two years. Please make checks payable to the Antrim Limrik and mail order to:

*Subscriptions*  
Antrim Limrik  
PO Box 84  
Antrim, NH 03440

## — ADVERTISING RATES —

Half page (back page only)    SIZE: 5" H x 7 1/2" W  
\$85 per issue

Quarter page                      SIZE: 5" H x 3 5/8" W  
\$50 per issue

Business Card                    SIZE: 2 3/16" H x 3 5/8" W  
\$35 per issue or  
\$125 for 4 issues

Required file format: PDF or JPEG

Advertising copy is due February 10, May 10, August 10, and November 10. Ad content is subject to approval by the Managing Editor and the Business Manager. For more information, contact Frank Gorga at: 603-588-2569 or by email at: [business@antrimlimrik.org](mailto:business@antrimlimrik.org).

## — SUBMISSIONS —

*The Limrik* welcomes submissions of articles, drawings, photographs, news and calendar items by, for and about the people of Antrim. Submission deadlines are February 10, May 10, August 10, and November 10. Submissions should be no more than 1500 words in length and should be submitted in digital form as a Microsoft Word-compatible document attached to an email. Submissions should be sent by email to Joan Gorga at: [editor@antrimlimrik.org](mailto:editor@antrimlimrik.org). Call 603-588-2569 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](mailto:editor@antrimlimrik.org).

## — WEBSITE —

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

## The Great Wall of Antrim? continued from page 1

Rebecca Bainum from Baltimore said, "What a fabulous hands-on training on the most glorious fall weekend! I am so lucky and happy to play a small role in a meaningful part of history." Martin DeFillippo from Stratford, Connecticut, said, "I enjoy being part of this great project! It was a great two days of walling with great people!" Perhaps he was the first to use the term "Great Wall of Antrim"? Aileen Kounaves wrote, "What an amazing day. Andras and Pete were fantastic teachers and co-workers. I learned and got to try so much! Best volunteering day ever." Heather McEachern, coming to the area from Opelika, Alabama, to attend a wedding, added, "Driving up here was very like flying through layer upon layer of flaming sunsets, and a beautiful introduction to the time spent working on the Grange. Pete and Andras are an absolute joy to work with, and incredibly experienced and generous instructors. I am enjoying every minute of working with the stones, and with them, and so very grateful for the chance to apply my novice-but-learning skills to something as synergistic in experience and wholesome preservation and value as this beautiful Grange." Not only did Alfred Dedham, from Ryegate, Vermont, come to volunteer, he also delivered a load of twelve tons of granite with a promise of more to come.

Antrim Grange is honored and humbled by the GREAT display of devotion, expertise, and regard for this part of our continuing rehabilitation project. We will gratefully accept donations to assist this and other phase(s) of the project and there is still a way to go in raising the matching funds for LCHIP-supported grant for the roof project that is scheduled in the spring. General donations, made out to Antrim Grange, can be sent to Beth Merrill, Secretary, Antrim Grange, 107 West Street, Antrim. For tax-deductible contributions, please send your check made out to NH Grange Foundation with a notation that it's for the Antrim Grange Hall fund, and mail to Andrew Savage, Treasurer, NH Grange Foundation, 837 Bennett Way, Newmarket, NH 03857. ✨

The Limrik is printed by

**Savron Graphics, Jaffrey**

[www.savron.com](http://www.savron.com)



**HARDING**  
**Plumbing & Heating**

We are committed to careful service during this critical time. **Stay safe.**

**588-2442**

NH License #2456



## Antrim Police Department

### ROOSTERS AND CHICKENS

Brian Lord, Chief of Police

In recent months the Antrim Police Department has received multiple complaints regarding roosters crowing at all hours of the day and night throughout town. In addition to the crowing there have also been complaints of uninvited chickens invading neighboring properties. It appears the number of residents raising chickens has increased dramatically since the beginning of the pandemic and is continuing to grow steadily.

Raising and keeping chickens is a wonderful way to have fresh poultry and eggs at home and to offset the cost of buying them at the grocery store. It is also a great way to teach children how to be responsible in caring for animals and how to enjoy the fruits of their labor. 4-H is a great program available for children and parents to learn how to properly care for animals and the NH Cooperative Extension also provides a wide range of information on all aspects of agriculture available at the click of a button.

Why do roosters crow? According to Chicken Scratch online, roosters crow at dawn, during the morning hours, and at night to mark their territory, as a ritual to mating, to establish hierarchy, and to alert the flock to predators. Another reason for crowing is their internal clock, which allows them to know when the sun is coming up.

For those of us who are not raising chickens the incessant crowing can become quite unnerving, and as good neighbors we should try to mitigate the crowing as much as possible. Crowing from a rooster cannot be eliminated completely; however, Chicken Scratch lists some tips on how to reduce the crowing.

Adding additional hens to the flock may reduce the crowing as some roosters crow to express their dissatisfaction with the flock. Modifying the environment may help as well, as it is believed that chickens are intelligent and it could be that your rooster is just bored, kind of like a child might be. They suggest giving your chickens something to do such as hiding their food under hay to keep them occupied while they search for it.

Adding non-hazardous items to the coop for them to investigate and explore might also help because it keeps their minds busy, and they may not feel the need to crow for the sake of crowing because they are bored.

Another tip suggested was to trick the rooster into thinking that is still daylight out at night. Roosters have an internal clock and can detect when dawn is approaching. Providing a source of light at night-time could alter your rooster's internal clock.

As mentioned before, if you have questions on how to raise and/or care for your chickens there is a lot of information available online.

We are not raising chickens here at the Police Department, but we understand the desire to raise them and the

benefits of raising them along with understanding and hearing about the negative aspects of raising them from your neighbors. Although there isn't a town ordinance addressing the crowing of roosters, there is a state law addressing the trespass of livestock—NH RSA 635:3 Trespassing Stock or domestic Fowl, which states:

*635:3 Trespassing Stock or Domestic Fowl.—If any person having the charge or custody of any sheep, goats, cattle, horses, swine, or domestic fowl shall knowingly, recklessly, or negligently suffer or permit the same to enter upon, pass over, or remain upon any improved or enclosed land of another without written permission of the owner, occupant, or his or her agent, and thereby injures the owner's crops or property, the person shall be guilty of a violation. Complaints shall be made to law enforcement officials or local animal control officers who shall enforce the provisions of this section.*

In closing, I ask that as good neighbors we all do what we can to create a peaceful and enjoyable environment for everyone while also allowing our neighbors to provide for themselves and their families while they are raising chickens. ✨



*Building Materials*

Mon.—Fri. 7 to 5

Sat. 7—1

Closed Sundays

**78 Smith Road**

**P.O. Box 148**

**Antrim, NH 03440**

**603-588-2139**

The Gregg Lake public beach park was originally developed with the help of a LWCF grant in the late 1960s in a project led by the Antrim Conservation Commission and the Antrim Bennington Lions Club. We've heard differing accounts of whether the sand for the beach, the peninsula and the boat launch was entirely dredged up from the lake or brought in by the truckload—probably some combination of the two—but there's no question that Antrim's public beach park was created where there was no beach before. Town tax maps based on old surveys show that the beach property originally had an area of 3.3 acres, but erosion and rising lake levels as a result of dam repairs have now reduced it to 1.9 acres, as determined in a survey completed this past August. Realizing this gives us extra incentive to protect the park area from further erosion.

Rebuilding the bathhouse is not as straightforward as one might think. The pump serving the current cistern, which holds water pumped from the wetlands to the north, has failed, and the water is non-potable, highly colored and strongly scented, to put it politely. The conceptual design includes two ADA/ABA-compliant changing rooms, a storage area, a staff area with visibility to the parking lot, the peninsula, and the swimming beach and two vault toilets similar to those available in national forest recreational facilities, one ADA/ABA-compliant and one standard. We have opted to install built-in vault toilets, which can be pumped regularly over the summer and kept open in the winter, because the park is situated on a narrow piece of sandy fill sandwiched between the lake to the south and wetlands to the north with the added complication of the lake elevation being three feet higher than when the beach was first developed. With these factors in mind, it became evident that there is no good location for a septic system that wouldn't, over time, potentially feed wastewater directly into the lake. Further, the cost of drilling a new well would far exceed the funding available for the project.

When the peninsula was first laid out, much of it was planted with native vegetation, such as blueberry bushes and alders. Heavy use of the much-loved area has stripped shrubs and groundcover from parts of the it, compacted the soil and left areas difficult to access over exposed roots and gullies. The shoreline is receding as the stabilizing vegetation is worn away.

Can we prevent further loss of the park soil into the lake? One method recommended by the NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) is to maintain tree and shrub density at a level that stabilizes the soil and holds it in place,

rather than allowing stormwater to carry it into the lake. NHDES recommended a method they use to guide private and public landowners in establishing an appropriate tree density for stabilizing the soil, which uses a point system for trees and shrubs within a section of shoreline 25 feet wide and 50 feet deep based on trunk diameter.

How does the Gregg Lake Beach Park fare in this type of analysis? On a beautiful Saturday in late October, our committee completed the tree survey for the park shoreline. The entire park shoreline was divided into 49 measured sections (see Figure 1), and trees and shrubs greater than one inch in diameter were assessed. The tree and shrub stem/trunk count in sections 1 through 45 included 133 trees. There were so many trees and shrubs in the easternmost sections, 46–49, that we determined there to be sufficient density for soil stabilization and therefore did not need to gather data in those sections. Using the NHDES point system, the number of points for each tree and then the total number of points for each section was determined (see Figure 2). As expected, quite a few of our sections had no points, but perhaps surprisingly, 13 of the 49 sections met or exceeded the NHDES target of 25 points per section. We can use this analysis as a guide for planting trees and revegetating compacted and eroded areas. Our aim at this time doesn't need to be to immediately reach the desired point total for each section, but our goals of planting trees for shade and shrubs and groundcovers to support wildlife mesh well with goals of establishing rain gardens and plantings in bare areas to capture stormwater runoff and limit further erosion of the park land. These efforts will be aided by installing smooth and stable walkways to make the park more accessible.

This project should bring new life to our much-loved town beach. With receipt of the LWCF grant, we can double the amount the town puts into the project and achieve much more in the way of beach renovation. We'll be looking for help in planting trees, shrubs and groundcovers, digging and planting rain gardens, installing water bars and other methods of erosion control. Please reach out if you or your organization would like to be involved!

 — continued on page 6

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

**MIKE'S  
Towing & Recovery**

- Towing
- Recovery
- Fuel
- Junk Car Removal
- Lock Outs
- Jump Starts
- Equipment Transport

**Bennington, NH**      **24 hr. cell 554-6465**  
[www.mikestowingandrecoverynh.com](http://www.mikestowingandrecoverynh.com)



## Reflections of A Soon-to-Be-Ex-ConVal School Board Member

Stephen Ullman

**Thanks to the Voters.** Thanks to the people of Antrim for entrusting me with the responsibility of representing our town on the ConVal Board. It has been an honor.

**Opening on the School Board.** This coming March there will be an open seat. I hope *Limrik* readers will consider running. I believe that the future of this community depends significantly on the performance of our public schools.

**Challenging Years.** My three years on the Board have been difficult. Just three days after my election, the Board called an emergency meeting to shut down all eleven ConVal schools. The pandemic had begun. For months, the District utilized remote and other forms of instruction in order to maintain student learning while at the same time keeping everyone healthy. Teachers and students reacted heroically. Nonetheless, despite all that the faculty and staff accomplished, our students achieved less academic progress than they might have under non-pandemic conditions. The District is engaged in numerous learning recovery programs, all aimed at compensating for the COVID-caused damage.

During the pandemic, the Board met through Zoom meetings. We also had to deal with understandably distressed parents and students. Plus, our meetings were very lengthy. I remember one that began at 7:00 p.m. and continued until almost 1:00 a.m. Thank goodness, the Board, the faculty, and the students have returned to conventional schedules.

**School Board Colleagues.** I was very much impressed by the dedication and expertise of my colleagues on the Board, especially our two Chairs, Tim Theberge and Janine Lesser. Furthermore, ConVal Superintendent Kimberly Sanders did an excellent job of leading us through the very demanding COVID years.

**Best wishes to the Next School Board Member.** Again, thanks to the voters of Antrim and my best wishes to my successor. ❁

## Antrim Select Board

Donna Hanson, Selectman

Fall is here and that means it is time to prepare for spring Town Meeting. The Select Board has begun reviewing department budgets and will soon meet with the Capital Reserve Committee (CIP) to decide which warrant articles will be voted on in March. The CIP committee meets with all department heads to evaluate each department's six-year plan and proposed municipal capital projects. Generally, this is how we determine which warrant articles will be presented at Town Meeting.

The tax rate for 2022 was set at \$27.86 per \$1,000 valuation.

During the last nine years the town portion of the tax rate has remained flat or has decreased. We are happy to report that once again it will remain flat this year at \$9.65. However, the school portion of the tax rate has increased from \$13.24 to \$15.52 representing a 17% increase.

The breakdown of the new tax rate is:

Town \$9.65  
County \$1.24  
Local School \$15.52  
State School \$1.45

You may have noticed when going to the transfer station that the construction for the highway garage has begun. When completed, this will provide our Highway Department employees much-needed extra space for office, break room, bathroom, etc. This project was a warrant article that was passed at Town Meeting in 2021.

In October our Joint Loss Management Committee (JLMC) held an employee-wide Safety Day. The state mandates that each community maintain a JLMC to protect the safety and health of its workers. Employees meet on a regular basis to discuss various topics regarding safe and healthy working environments. They conclude the year in the fall with Safety Day that teaches employees what to do in many kinds of workplace emergencies. This has proven to be an excellent learning experience for the employees, and it also gives us a significant discount on our workers' compensation insurance.

We would like to form an energy committee to look at various opportunities the town might have to reduce our cost and consumption of energy. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please call Town Hall and speak to Russ McAllister at 603-588-6785 ext. 221 or email [antrimbiz@tds.net](mailto:antrimbiz@tds.net).

Did you know that you can receive town news, notices, meeting minutes and agendas via email? Go to [antrimnh.org](http://antrimnh.org) and click on "subscribe to news" on the left side of the home page. You will be sent an email of the information that you requested when it is posted to the website.

We hope you all have a safe and wonderful holiday season. ❁



**SUPPORTING OUR *Local* COMMUNITIES**  
*Since 1831*  
Join the BNH Family!  
Visit [BankNH.com](http://BankNH.com) to learn more.

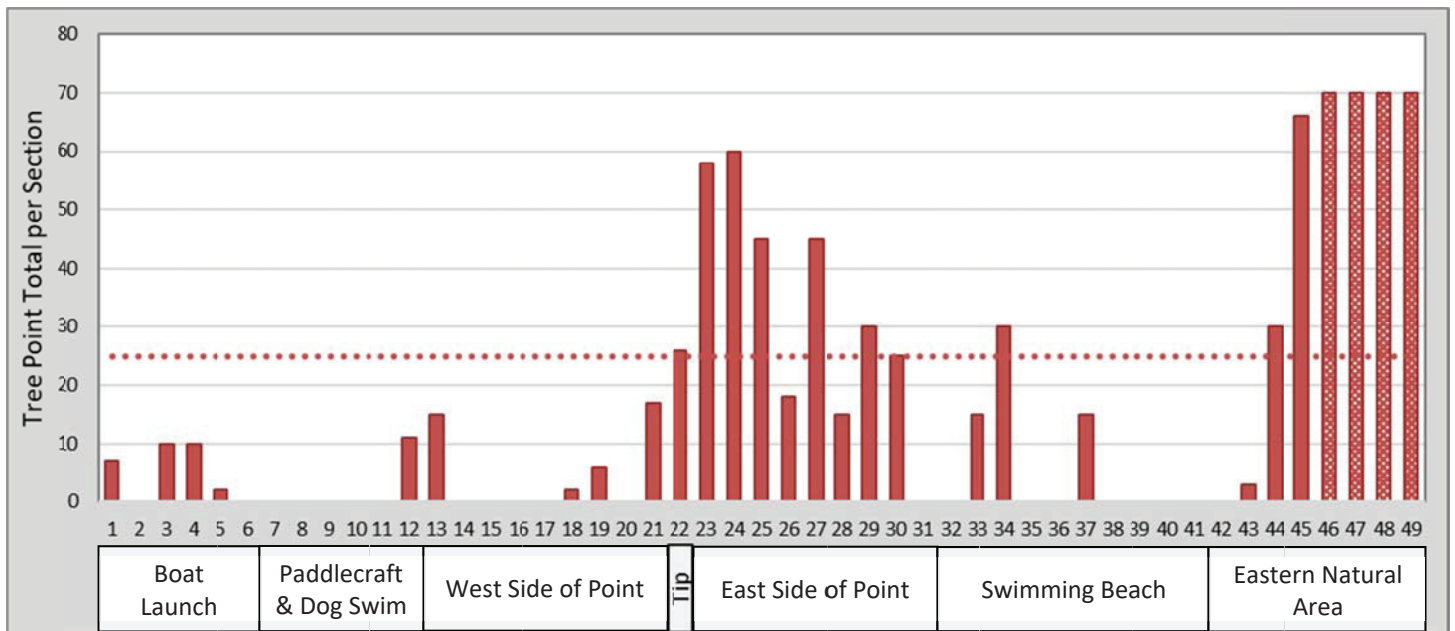
 **Bank of New Hampshire** 

BankNH.com 1.800.832.0912 Member FDIC

Figure 1. Gregg Lake Beach Park sections surveyed for tree density counts. Tree trunks and shrub stems in each approximately 25-foot-wide by 50-foot-deep section were measured to calculate the diameter at a height of 4½ feet. Trees with a diameter of 1 to 3” were assigned one point; trees with a diameter of >3” to 6” were assigned 5 points; trees with a diameter of >6” to 12” were assigned 10 points; and trees with a diameter of >12” were assigned 15 points. Point totals were calculated for each section through section 45. In sections 46 through 49, tree density was too great to measure the individual stems, thus indicating sufficient density for stabilizing the soil.



Figure 2. Tree point counts for 25-foot-wide by 50-foot-deep sections of the Gregg Lake Beach Park shoreline, obtained as described in Figure 1. The target of 25 points per section is indicated by the dotted line.





## Antrim Historical Society News

Bill Nichols

As the temperature starts to drop, things at the Antrim Historical Society are heating up. Although some of our programs fell through this year, we are already making plans for our 2023 programs.

We had a wonderful Home & Harvest as we offered our Apple Crisp booth to the Antrim Grange in hopes that they could raise some much-needed funds for the restoration of their building, Antrim's original Meetinghouse. We also had a successful Walk 'n' Talk at North Branch. Twenty-two people gave up their Saturday afternoon to listen to me go on about the people and events of the North Branch area, including the Tornado of 1922 and the Great Conflagration of 1888. The response to this was great and we hope to provide more of these in the future and not just at Home & Harvest.

Recently, we had a wonderful donation come to us from Canada—the original wedding gown worn by Isabel Burnham Jameson in 1912. This wedding was reported to be the largest wedding affair in the town of Antrim when the bride and groom invited almost the whole town to the wedding, as well as the reception afterwards at the family home on Main Street. Take a moment and stop by the museum to see this beautiful addition to our archives.

Wondering what exquisite Christmas gifts to purchase for your loved ones this year? Look no further. Along with our 1977 town history *Parades and Promenades* and our strong and beautiful Tote Bag, we have a new gift that is sure to be a hit. Our *Barns of Antrim 2023* calendar will be ready to purchase in just a few weeks. See Victor's article elsewhere in this issue or check our Facebook and Instagram pages.

Are you wondering what you could do to help the Antrim Historical Society? If so, we have a few ideas. We are always looking for volunteers to help us with the many things it takes to run a historical society and museum. The best thing is, we play to your strengths. You tell us what you like to do, and we'll find something for you to work on. And the best part is... you don't get paid, which in turn means that Uncle Sam doesn't get any of your hard-earned money in the way of taxes. It's a win-win situation!

Another way you could help us is by purchasing an annual membership. Memberships start at \$15 a year for an individual, \$25 for a family, and \$500 for a Lifetime. Purchasing any of these also makes a wonderful Christmas or birthday present.

Please remember that the Antrim Historical Society is here to preserve the history of Antrim and also to help you with any questions you might have about your property, home or family. We are just a phone call or email away.

All of us at the Antrim Historical Society would like to take this time to thank you for your support over the years and we hope that you have a beautiful Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year. ❁

## What's Going on at the Antrim Community Board (ACB)

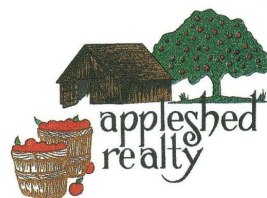
Gordon Allen

**The Swap Shop is back**—Thanks to the dozen volunteers who answered the ACB's request to volunteer to reopen the Swap Shop, we reopened it on Saturday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>. It is now open at the Transfer Station from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. every Saturday staffed by your friendly Community Board volunteers. All items are free and there is no limit to the number of items you can take or leave—although we can't take certain items such as clothing, items that plug in (we have no way of testing them for safety), and items that have a disposal fee. However, we welcome with open arms (we will even help you unload) just about any of your other items. This is because scores of times every Saturday, items that you no longer need (or don't even like) are snapped up by grateful swap shoppers.

Our volunteers decide each week if they can come in on Saturday for two hours (10 a.m.–12 p.m., 12–2 p.m., or 2–4 p.m.) to run the Swap Shop. This provides flexibility. But what about the job? We didn't know what to expect, but the good news is, as Nancy Blair puts it, "It's really fun." As she points out, you get to chat with your fellow volunteers and all the people who come in, and sorting through the incredible variety of items is kind of like a treasure hunt. And as a reward for running the Swap Shop for two hours, you have first dibs on any of the items. It's also fun to watch the kids who come running in as they head straight to the toy, games, and sports sections—and then come away with many treasures. And think of the hundreds of these treasures that swap shoppers have saved from being dumped into the trash and costing us money to cart away.

Many thanks to stalwarts Jennifer Adams, Nancy Blair, Amy DeLisle, Mary Devine, Renee and Armond Gerritsen, Rich Hanlon, Helene Newbold, Mark Tenney, and Laura and Kevyn Torunski. Also, thanks to seven others who have signed up and are ready to start when their schedule allows. You can sign up to join our Swap Shop team at the Swap Shop or by emailing [AntrimCB@tds.net](mailto:AntrimCB@tds.net) or calling Gordon at 603-588-2742.

 — continued on page 8



Main Street  
P.O. Box 265  
Antrim, NH 03440

Ofc: 603-588-2130  
Fax: 603-588-3036

[appleshedrealty@tds.net](mailto:appleshedrealty@tds.net)

---

**Paul E. Hardwick, Broker**  
Cell: 603-491-3928 • Res: 603-588-2724

---

**Maria Isotti, Realtor • 603-533-5413**  
**Richard Hanlon, Realtor • 603-321-9898**



The Town’s email listserv is back—With the cooperation of the Selectboard and Town Hall staff, the Town’s emails about events, meeting minutes, urgent and other notifications—and all manner of other town information—is now back up and running. It’s a great way to keep up to date on what’s happening just by checking your email inbox. Please send your news and information for posting to the list to Crystal O’Brien, Deputy Town Clerk (and wearer of many other hats at the Town Office) at [antrimdeputyclerk@tds.net](mailto:antrimdeputyclerk@tds.net). There still may be some kinks we need to work out, but by the time you read this, you should be able to sign up for the Town’s email list on the Town website at <https://www.antrimnh.org/subscribe>. And if you aren’t getting the Town emails now from [cmsmailer@civicplus.com](mailto:cmsmailer@civicplus.com) via [sendgrid.net](mailto:sendgrid.net) it means you are not on the list, even if you were on the list in the past.

Becky’s Pies and Desert truck now comes to Antrim in the Evening—Thanks to ACB Board Member Rose Novotny, Becky’s came to Antrim in the Evening events, and it worked out. This made these great events even “richer”—and she plans to return next year. What a great combo.

The Welcome Team project is almost ready—Thanks to ACB Board Member Lesley Moenter, with help from Christine Gutkowski and others, look for us in 2023 to start welcoming new people moving into our fair town with a Welcome Basket (thanks to all the businesses and groups that have agreed to contribute information and goodies) and to give them the scoop on living here and all the opportunities Antrim has to offer.

An updated list of over 200 Antrim businesses and trade names is now on our website—See <https://www.antrimnh.org/business-directory/by-alpha/all>. Please contact us with updates, corrections, and omissions. The list is from the NH Secretary of State’s list of all the business entities it registers in Antrim, so we need to make sure we include entities doing business in town but that are not registered in town.

The ACB now meets every fourth Wednesday (instead of Tuesday) at 5:30 p.m. at Little Town Hall—All are welcome. Please come prepared to participate. We need you. Many of our best ideas and suggestions have come from our guests. Note: To know what to expect at the meetings and what we are working on, sign up for our email news list by emailing Gordon Allen at [wgordonallen@gmail.com](mailto:wgordonallen@gmail.com). ❄️



## Antrim Elementary School

Joe Benham, Wellness Teacher

It was an Eagle Extravaganza! On October 27<sup>th</sup>, Antrim Elementary School families experienced games, book readings and prizes. The event promoted family engagement and literacy at AES and was developed by the AES staff and the ConVal Title One program. It was supported by Ginger House, Rick and Diane’s and Toadstool Bookshops.

These events are important to the school and community. There were 100 participants in the event, who got to move about the AES building and experience fun literacy-based activities. It was a success! We look forward to doing another event in March of 2023.

Here are a few pictures of our Eagles. ❄️

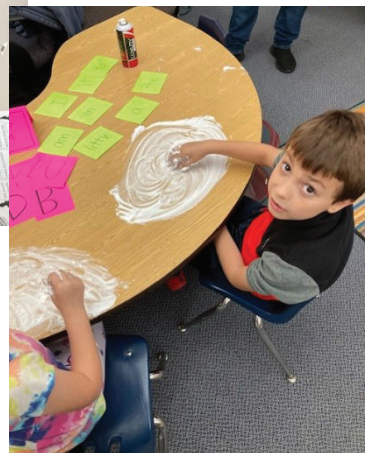
Right: Mrs. Donovan shares a game that had students create their own stories.



Below: Mr. Stultz offered a Frankenstein GLIF, an activity that allowed students to create their own character.



Right: Ms. Lawler offered some hands-on sight word activities. Students got to use different materials to create sight words.



### WILLIAM BRYK Justice of the Peace and Notary Public

Marriages solemnized  
Documents notarized and authenticated

444 Clinton Road  
Antrim, NH 03440-3510

Telephone: (603) 588-2168

## Buzz on Mill Pond

Joan Gorga

There's a new buzz around the Mill Pond these days—no, it's not the sound of chain saws, although the effect is somewhat similar. After a long hiatus, beavers have moved into the Mill Pond, and are doing their best to enhance the pond by building a dam under the footbridge crossing Great Brook from behind Antrim Marketplace to Memorial Park. They've also built a lodge a little closer to the human-sanctioned dam by Spring Street.

Beavers were once abundant, but they were heavily trapped in the 1600s and 1700s to supply fur hats and coats especially for the European market and were completely wiped out in New Hampshire by the late 1800s. They were reintroduced beginning in 1926, so it has taken them nearly a hundred years to try to stake a claim on the Mill Pond, although they had made their presence known upstream by at least 1960.

Beavers cut down trees and shrubs to build their lodges and dams and to provide food. They eat tree bark, leaves, roots and aquatic plants, and store branches underwater outside their lodges to eat over the winter. They can cut through a finger-sized branch with one quick bite of their sharp front teeth, and they leave characteristic pointed stumps when they chew through larger tree trunks. Unfortunately, beavers don't always check with human landowners when they begin their free pruning services. The Mill Pond beavers have removed quite a few sizeable trees around the pond, including a large apple tree near the dam and the weeping cherry in Memorial Park, as well as many shrubs.

Troublesome as they are at times and in certain locations, beaver dams do serve a purpose beyond providing the beavers with a home pond. They trap sediment that would otherwise fill downstream lakes and ponds and slow water flow that might otherwise cause downstream flooding. They allow water to slowly seep back into the ground and refill aquifers. They build up areas of rich soil and provide habitat for wildlife.

But what to do when beavers' chosen spots for dams and ponds clash with humans' plans? Like other rodents, beavers

✍ — continued on page 13

## Conservation Corner

Peter Beblowski

**Hello again from the Conservation Corner.** The Antrim Conservation Commission (ACC) has been working diligently over the past several years to remove invasive plants from several town properties. The ACC, with help from the town road crew, has removed the 'burning bushes' (*Euonymus alatus*) from the south and west sides of Town Hall. At this same time, the ACC has put a dent in the oriental bitter-sweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*) that has been growing there as well, and we planted eight blueberry bushes of various ages as replacements for the removed burning bushes.

Both plants—the burning bushes and the oriental bitter-sweet—have been considered to be pretty landscape plantings at times in the past due to their fall coloration and/or fruit. However, today they are considered to be highly invasive species. You may ask what is an invasive species? An invasive species is a non-native species that has the ability to easily adapt to a new area, reproduce quickly and harm property, the economy or native plants and animals in an area.

We all know what bittersweet looks like, as it is a climbing vine that grows vigorously and persistently. This growth type can easily crowd out and overwhelm even well-established native plants. The ACC will be monitoring the Town Hall site where these vines were removed for new growth in the spring. We believe if we can stop any new growth from becoming re-established, we can in time and with persistence eradicate this invasive plant from this location.

The ACC has also over the past several years been conducting a program of Japanese barberry removal from the Campbell Pond Forest area. This invasive species and its location in a highly fertile portion of the property was identified during a Natural Resource Inventory of the property by Moosewood Ecological, LLC, for the commission. The ACC has been doing this removal as the steward of this town land. The Campbell Pond Forest was permanently conserved in 2005 through a permanent conservation easement with the Monadnock Conservancy.

The Antrim Conservation Commission, as part of its stewardship of this land, is investigating engaging the Student Conservation Association (SCA) to help with establishing a trail around Campbell Pond. For more information on invasive plants and/or the SCA, please visit <http://www.agriculture.nh.gov/divisions/plant-industry/invasive-plants.htm> and/or SCA <https://www.thesca.org>. ✨

Commercial & Residential  
Free Estimates  
Fully Insured



# Robblee Tree Service LLC

Tree Removal • Pruning • Bucket Truck  
Stump Grinding • Views • Crane Service

Andrew J. Robblee  
Owner

Antrim (603) 588-2094  
Rindge (603) 899-6382

[www.robbleetreeservice.com](http://www.robbleetreeservice.com)



## First Presbyterian Church of Antrim

Jan Howe, Pastor

It is nice to have the church building in active use once again! Many of the local organizations have returned to in-person meetings, so the church lights are on several evenings a week. That is the way we love to see it, with people gathering there for various purposes. We once again need a calendar to make sure we do not double-book the church! We even have Meals on Wheels using the parking lot to distribute meals to their drivers to deliver to local homes. As the weather gets colder, they will move the distribution inside to the Clark Room.

Speaking of cold weather, we are once again committed to collecting items for *100 Nights*, which originally started as a shelter open for the 100 cold nights of winter, but according to their website it is “*a community non-profit with two components: 1) We provide year-round emergency shelter, which offers clean beds in a safe and warm space from 6:45 p.m. to 7 a.m.; and 2) We provide the Open Doors Resource Center which provides a welcoming space for people to gather for sustenance of body and spirit on a year-round basis.*” Unfortunately, with the lack of affordable housing there are more and more people, including working people, who utilize the facilities and services they offer. Each year we collect items to donate to them based on their current wish list, which can be found on their website (<https://hundrednightsinc.org/help-us/wish-list/>). Please refer to that list, as it not only details what they are accepting but also what they do not need currently. Donations may be left at the church through January.

Our Revival Shop continues to be an asset to the community and the church. It also surprises us that there are still local people who are unaware of its existence. The shop is always accepting seasonal clothing when they are open on Saturdays from 10–2. The clothes are very reasonably priced, and there are always racks of free clothing, as well as the bag sales that often occur. In addition, we work with local organizations like Antrim House, The Grapevine, and the schools to help families in emergency situations. Any proceeds from the sale of the clothing are used by the church ministry to help the local community. If you would like to volunteer at the Revival Shop on Saturdays, or during the week when the sorting takes place, do not hesitate to contact the church at 603–588–2209.

Exciting news is that the Community Suppers, which are organized by the Grapevine and held at the church, are up and running on the Third Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m. Look for the sign out front of the church to remind you to stop in on Thursday, as well as check the church and local community Facebook pages and Instagram accounts to see

the menu for that month. We are working on ways to better promote the suppers, as well as ways to get a better idea of the number of meals anticipated each month.

As for our beautiful and historical building, we have been slowly painting the building and replacing the roof as funds have been raised. The plan is to paint the back side of the building this spring. As we all know, these maintenance issues are essential to maintaining the structure of the building. Hopefully, by the time of this printing we will have the roof over the side door repaired and will eliminate that leak. Work is also being done by the Revival Shop door to stop the leak that seems to be entering through the foundation. Just like our homes there is always something to do!

To enhance our ministry, both online and in-person worship, we have replaced our sound system using the speakers that we already had in the sanctuary and the sound is amazing.

We are now in the season of Advent, which is the time of preparation for Christmas Day. Each Sunday, we light the Advent Candles as we journey to the birth of Jesus. On the first Sunday of Advent, Nov 27, we decorate our Christmon Tree. Our traditional Christmas Candlelight Service will be on Dec 24 at 7 p.m. This service will include many musical pieces. If you would like to join the choir for the Christmas season, join us at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays for choir practice; contact the church to receive audio of the songs, as well as to learn when additional practices are scheduled.

This year Christmas falls on a Sunday, and after much prayer and discussion, we have decided not to have a Christmas Day service, as many of our members will be with their families.

Finally, before the next issue of *The Limrik* appears we will begin our Lenten journey towards Easter on Wed, Feb 22, with the imposition of Ashes and a prayer service everyone is invited to attend. ✨



### NH PIONEER CHIMNEY COMPLETE CHIMNEY SERVICES

[www.nhpioneer.com](http://www.nhpioneer.com) • 603-588-3908

Chimneys swept, inspected, relined, waterproofed, repointed and rebuilt.

Critters removed. Caps installed. Leaks stopped.

Prefab chimney and woodstove installations.

Insured • Over 30 Years Experience • Free Estimates  
Prompt, Courteous Service • Veterans Discount  
Marcel J. Couturier • Antrim, NH





## Antrim Baptist Church

Christine Madden

Great things are happening at Antrim Baptist Church! On October 2<sup>nd</sup> the congregation voted to accept Pastor Charles Mitchell as the new part-time pastor of Antrim Baptist Church. We are excited to begin this new chapter and invite community members to reach out to meet Pastor Mitchell. He can be contacted at [abcpastorcharles@gmail.com](mailto:abcpastorcharles@gmail.com), and all are welcome to join us for worship at 10:30 on Sundays and meet him in person.

Our Antrim-Bennington Food Pantry continues to serve the community on Saturdays from 10 to noon at the Main Street entrance to the Church. You need not be affiliated with Antrim Baptist Church to participate, and no appointment is necessary. When accessing the food pantry, please wait in your car until a food pantry volunteer comes to you. If you would like to donate food items, we do accept both perishable and non-perishable items. Please call 603-588-6614 to make arrangements for perishable items. Also, kindly remember that we cannot accept any expired items.

We were happy to be able to provide baskets for Thanksgiving, which contained turkeys and fixings for the holiday meal, including fresh produce from a local farm stand. We are hoping to do the same for Christmas. There will be Christmas Eve service (refer to [www.antrimbaptist.org](http://www.antrimbaptist.org) for details) on Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. (and no service on Sunday). ❁

## Antrim Bennington Lions Club

Nancy Blair, President

The AB Lions have been busy since I last wrote for *The Limrik*. We continue to attract new members and received an award at the last 44N Cabinet meeting for being the club with the most new members in the district. Look for a new Lions International road sign in the area. We continue to grow.

Our cornhole tournaments continue to be an activity that community members look forward to. We held one at the Rhubarb Festival in the spring and had another at Home & Harvest on Friday evening. We have acquired some regulars that we look forward to having with us!

In August we held our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Lions on Mount Monadnock and raised over four thousand dollars to support our community. This is a wonderful dinner/dance held at The Shattuck Golf Club overlooking beautiful Mount Monadnock. In addition, we hold a fun raffle with donations from many of our fabulous local businesses. There will be a third annual dinner/dance, to be held next year on the third weekend in August. Look for our advertisements and consider joining us. I guarantee you will have a great time!

The club was happy to be able to hold the chicken barbeque at Home & Harvest this year. We have missed this since COVID and flooding prevented having it the past two years. Along with Lions on Mount Monadnock, this is one of our bigger fundraisers. The Lions had a float in the parade, and we hope you didn't miss Lion Bob Edwards in his famous chicken hat! After gathering our resources, the club donated \$4500 to several community organizations in need.

Vision screening has been completed this fall at the elementary schools in Frankestown, Greenfield, Bennington, Hancock and Antrim, Great Brook middle school and The Grapevine! We screened 488 students total and made 32 referrals. This is such a great collaborative effort between the Lions and the ConVal School District.

The Lions, along with Avenue A's cooking program, TACO (Teens Are Cooking Organization), put on the Community Supper in Antrim on Nov 17. We love working with Avenue A and look forward to seeing the Community Suppers back in action.

 — continued on page 14



Four Seasons | Sotheby's  
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

# SEASONS GREETINGS!

The market may be changing, but our commitment to you remains the same.

We're ready to guide you and help you achieve your real estate goals. Contact us today!



**Janet McEwen**  
C: 603.582.6152  
[Janet.Mcewen@FourSeasonsSIR.com](mailto:Janet.Mcewen@FourSeasonsSIR.com)

**Paul Boule'**  
C: 603.620.0272  
[Paul.Boule@FourSeasonsSIR.com](mailto:Paul.Boule@FourSeasonsSIR.com)

Your Antrim Real Estate Specialists

42 GROVE STREET | PETERBOROUGH, NH | O: 603.924.3321  
[FourSeasonsSIR.com](http://FourSeasonsSIR.com) | Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated.



## Sharing the Caring...

The Monadnock Adult Care Center offers a comfortable structured day program for adults 18 and over.  
Call today 603-532-2427  
22 North Street, Jaffrey, NH [www.mfs.org](http://www.mfs.org)

MONADNOCK FAMILY SERVICES

Financial Assistance is available for those who qualify.



## Uncle Natt

Bill Nichols

If you've lived in Antrim, even for a short time, and know anything about its history, chances are you may have heard about Philip Riley (Raleigh), the first settler back in 1744, or possibly even James Aiken, who arrived twenty-three years later. But there's another man who arrived in 1809, and lived in North Branch, that you may never have heard of, even though he spent eighty-seven years in town.

Looking back to September, particularly Home & Harvest, we had a wonderful celebration with all sorts of games, booths, programs and a parade, thanks in large part to Rick Davis and his crew of helpers. This year, the Antrim Historical Society provided a walking tour of the North Branch area, which was well-attended by over twenty people. One of our first stops that day was the North Branch Cemetery on Cemetery Road. The east side of this cemetery was built in 1826, and in 1864 the land on the west side was purchased. Of particular interest during our walk was a grave that is located not far from the road and only feet from where the east and west sides merge. This is the grave of Nathaniel Parker, or as he was known to most, Uncle Natt.

If you look for Uncle Natt in any of the town's histories, you'll find him mentioned in Tibbals' and Cochrane's publications. Cochrane wrote Uncle Natt "... is a kind, industrious, and smart man, whose memory has been of great service in preparing this book." That's quite a compliment coming from Cochrane, but to understand who Nathaniel Parker was, let's first take a look at his family.

Uncle Natt was born in Weare, the oldest son of a formerly enslaved black man, Caesar Parker, who came from the Boston area and gained his freedom after the Revolutionary War. Caesar married a white woman from New Ipswich, Margaret Spear, in a bit of an unusual way. You see, Margaret had been jilted by a lover, and was overheard to say that she "...would marry the first man that asked her." A friend of Caesar strode up to him and told him that "Miss So-and-So is very fond of you" and if he quickly asked her to marry him, she would accept his offer. Caesar cleaned himself up and quickly made his acquaintance with Margaret, who indeed accepted his proposal, and they were married in 1800.

— continued on page 14

## Exciting News from the Antrim Historical Society!

### BARNS OF ANTRIM 2023 CALENDAR

Victor Rosansky

In our endeavor to provide residents of Antrim with interesting information about our town and its history, we are on the lookout for those things that have made Antrim so special over the years. One area of interest is our barns. Many are still around in reasonable condition, some have been or are being rehabilitated, and we captured the unique charm of some in old photographs and memorabilia.

These pictures have been assembled into a "Barns of Antrim 2023 Calendar" that make for a wonderful Holiday gift with all the practicality of being your historical calendar for the year. Please go to the Antrim Historical Society website following this link to get information on how you can get your calendar: <https://www.antrimnh.org/antrim-historical-society>. ❁



## Barns of Antrim 2023



### Innovative Natural Resource Solutions, LLC

We provide full forestry services. Let us come to your Antrim woodlot and do a free site visit to discuss your forestry options.

Charles Levesque NH Licensed Forester #281- 41 years a forester

Call 603-588-3272 or e-mail [levesque@inrslc.com](mailto:levesque@inrslc.com)

[www.inrslc.com](http://www.inrslc.com)

Office 603-827-3726

Cell 603-209-2858



**hal grant**

**real estate**

Email: [halgrantrealestate@myfairpoint.net](mailto:halgrantrealestate@myfairpoint.net)

110 Nelson Road  
PO Box 328

Harrisville, NH 03450



## Fostering Community Conversations on Racial Justice

Linda Bundy

For some time, our group has been considering a name change that would be more reflective of what we're about. After some thought and discussion during our August meeting, we decided that *Fostering Community Conversations on Racial Justice* is a better fit, in that it broadens our focus and describes our goals. We continue to meet on the third Thursday of the month in order to stay curious, ask questions, seek answers, move forward and be part of the solution.

Next, we quickly wrapped up our discussion of *The Vanishing Half* and spent some time discussing Theo Wilson's talk at the June 26 Monadnock Summer Lyceum titled "From Enemies to Enlightenment: The Hidden Gift Within Racial Tension." Wilson quoted Einstein: "The most important decision we make is whether we believe we live in a friendly or hostile universe." He spoke of having face-to-face conversations with difficult people to see the world from others' perspectives. Mentoring and developing emotional intelligence can help us create true community, not simply token interactions.

At our September 15<sup>th</sup> meeting we talked about *I Never Thought of It That Way: How to Have Fearlessly Curious Conversations in Dangerously Divided Times* by Monica Guzman. She is the liberal daughter of Mexican immigrants who supported Donald Trump in 2016 and 2020. She writes about contentious conversations she's had with her parents, has organized through her work with the cross-partisan depolarization organization Braver Angels, or has witnessed on social media. Through her examples, she shows how to learn where people are coming from by the questions you ask, and by listening to the answers. The questions that we came back to repeatedly were: How did you come to believe that? What are your concerns? What are your hopes? By trying to understand differing views without judging, we can show people that we believe they matter.

The first part of Jonathan M. Metzl's *Dying of Whiteness: How the Politics of Racial Resentment is Killing America's Heartland* was our topic on October 20<sup>th</sup>. In it, Metzl focuses on suicides committed by white men in Missouri and includes data from WISQARS (Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System) on the CDC website. In comparison to firearm suicide by black, native American, Asian American or Pacific Islander males, white males accounted for 92% of the deaths. Metzl also shares interviews and discussion groups with Missouri residents who have lost family members to gun suicide. In spite of their personal losses, the consensus is that Missouri's liberal gun laws do not need to be changed. After the Sandy Hook tragedy, Connecticut enacted stricter gun laws. White men who live in Missouri are 2.6 times more likely to die by firearm suicide than white men who reside in Connecticut. Gun ownership in Missouri has complex historical and cultural

roots and represents privilege and power. A white man with a gun is seen as a protector, and a black man with a gun is seen as a threat. Protecting Second Amendment rights at all costs helps maintain this perceived racial hierarchy, even though this political choice has tragic effects on families. In his writing, Metzl provides numerous facts and tables that can make the reading require effort at times, but the personal stories add the human element that increases interest and engagement.

We discussed Part 2 of Metzl's book, which is about health care in Tennessee, at our November 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. Our next meeting is Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. We'll be discussing Part 3 of Metzl's book, which covers schools and social services in Kansas, as well as the book's conclusion and afterward. All are welcome. Contact Linda Bundy at [n\\_bundy@mcttelecom.com](mailto:n_bundy@mcttelecom.com) or 603-588-2254. ✨

### Buzz on Mill Pond continued from page 9

produce an abundance of young—often having four kits a year. Kits generally stay with the family unit into their second year before heading off to find a place of their own. Trapping and removing them can be effective for a short time, although another beaver fanning out from its natal pond is likely to discover the inviting spot before too many years have passed. Beavers will also abandon a spent habitat after they've depleted it of the trees and shrubs they need for food and dam- and lodge-building. But they usually rediscover the area a few years later after it has begun to recover.

For now, word on the street is that at least one Mill Pond beaver has been removed, but it is quite likely that before too long we'll see the Beaver family back in town. ✨



Christina Cody sent this photo of an apple tree near the Mill Pond dam that the beavers had been busy working on.



## Hardware

Bruce McGuffin

I wander through this hardware store —  
I can't resist it, I'm a guy —  
And wonder what these things are for —  
The mysteries of DIY.  
Cut crosses with a crosscut saw?  
A monkey wrench keeps monkeys tight?  
Claw hammers have a fearsome claw,  
And watch that nibbler, it may bite.  
They have an adze, but no subtracts.  
At least they sell a pipe reducer.  
It's time those fat pipes faced the facts,  
Their pipe wrap really could be looser.  
Now here's a lamp part called a harp  
To play light music in the store.  
And if you have a busted carp  
I think that's what this fish tape's for.  
A coping saw will help you cope.  
These chainsaws make swift work of chains.  
Do plumbing fixtures smoke pipe dope?  
Can rabbits fly in rabbit planes?  
Try vise grips — get a grip on vice.  
A bastard file to file some bastard?  
Here's rebar if you must bar twice.  
And plaster mix, let's go get plastered!

## Antrim Bennington Lions continued from page 11

At the Nov 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, the Antrim Bennington Lions awarded three Melvin Jones awards. This is the highest honor that a club member can receive for demonstrating Lionism in their community. The motto of all Lions is “We serve” and these three members epitomize the meaning of “we serve” within the club and their community. Sue Conklin, John Robertson and Rick Wood are truly ambassadors of their club in this community!

We will begin selling Christmas trees sometime after Thanksgiving. Look for us at Tenney Farm on the weekends. This is our annual fundraiser to support Operation Santa in this community.

As always, we encourage you to join us! If interested contact Nancy Blair, President, at [blairhouse@mcttelecom.com](mailto:blairhouse@mcttelecom.com) or call 603-588-8015 and ask for Nancy! ❄️

## Uncle Natt continued from page 12

Now, instead of a community with one black man, the community would soon be occupied by five boys and two girls of a “lighter hue,” or as census records would later show, mulatto.

Uncle Natt, born in 1802, arrived in Antrim in 1809 at the home of David McCauley, who had built his home where the brick house is now at Hawthorne Academy, formerly known as the Flint Estate. Why he was sent to live with McCauley is not exactly known, but during my research it appears that many of his brothers were removed to different locations in New Hampshire. Chances are it was a struggle to raise seven children of color when there are clear indicators of a lack of food and harassment as they were growing up. Later on, one of the Parker boys was heard to have said he would “...suffer to be skinned alive...”, if he could rid himself of his color. A sad statement to say the least.

McCauley came from Merrimack to Antrim when he received the property of his uncle, Capt. Thomas Stuart, after his death in 1803. McCauley, born in 1782, was a builder and a shopkeeper. His first store, *McCoy and McCauley*, was located in the Swain house, just east of the old brick schoolhouse, which is still standing, in North Branch. Later on, he moved his store to the basement of the three-story house in North Branch village, which was destroyed in the Great Conflagration of 1888. McCauley passed away at the age of thirty-five in 1817, only eight short years after taking in Uncle Natt, after he won a wager of \$2.50. The challenge was for McCauley to “...reap an acre of rye...” from Hiram Griffin’s field before noon. McCauley finished at 11:30, but his health was never the same and he died a few months later.

Uncle Natt worked in McCauley’s household as a farmer and, according to the 1860 census, as a peddler in his later years. The Antrim Historical Society is fortunate to possess one small painting of Uncle Natt, that shows him holding what looks to be a bottle of oil or liniment, perhaps from his days as a peddler. Uncle Natt was also an inventor, and in 1888, an article in the *Peterborough Transcript* written by the Antrim correspondent, read “...the oldest man in (Antrim) is the venerable and respected Nathaniel Parker, the inventor of Parker’s famous spool curve...” and ended with “Forty years ago he was well known among horsemen of this state and Connecticut, being a great lover of horses.” But Uncle Natt was more than just an inventor. He was also an artist.

In 1937, author Janet Waring wrote the book *Early American Stencils on Walls and Furniture*. In the section about New Hampshire, Waring talks about well-known craftsman Moses Eaton, Jr., from the Harrisville area. Some houses in Antrim are believed to be stenciled by Eaton, but what I find to be more interesting is what Waring has to say about Nathaniel Parker. Waring writes “The stencilling in the Buchanan house in Antrim, built in 1808, is said to be the work of another craftsman, one Nathaniel Parker, born in Weare in 1802.” The Buchanan house is located in Antrim Center,

 — continued on page 16

## Antrim Veterans: Integral Members of Our Community

Jim Creighton

The Antrim–Bennington American Legion Myers–Prescott–Olson Post 50 and the Antrim–Bennington Veterans of Foreign Wars Brown-Knight Memorial Post 8268 represent hundreds of years of service to our community and nation. The posts consist of veterans from all branches of service—Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines—who served in every conflict from World War II to Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. The posts are dedicated to helping other veterans, preserving the legacy of fallen comrades and supporting community activities. Veterans participate in Memorial Day, Veteran’s Day, Fourth of July, and Boy Scout ceremonies and parades. They are proud to have served and continue to serve their community.

The American Legion Myers–Prescott–Olson Post 50 was chartered in 1919 and consists of 58 veteran members. The Post is named in honor of the first Antrim soldier killed in WWI, William Myers, who died in the Battle of Soissons in France on July 18, 1918. After WWII, Post 50 was rechartered to also honor Paul Prescott, who was killed in a bombing raid over Germany on June 7, 1943. And in 1953 it was rechartered again to honor Leland Olson, killed in Korea in March 1951. Post 50 contributes significantly to building a patriotic and vibrant community in Antrim. Sponsoring the local Boy Scout Troop 2 provides an opportunity to support, mentor, and grow local youth. The American Legion School Award is presented annually to an eighth-grade student who demonstrates exceptional service and potential. The American Legion’s junior oratorical contest serves as another avenue for the veterans to promote patriotism and scholarship. Post members provide a color guard and firing detail for military funerals, ceremonies and parades, including Memorial Day, Veteran’s Day, and the Fourth of July.

The Brown–Knight Memorial Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8268 was founded in 1946. The Post honors Calvin Brown, who was killed in WWII, and Robert Knight, Jr., who was killed in Vietnam. Post 8268 honors veterans by participating in local parades, ceremonies, and veterans’ activities. The members are dedicated to caring for veterans in need and helping them overcome health, financial

and personal challenges. The VFW serves as a focal point for veterans to take care of other veterans. The post also serves to highlight the advantages of honorable service in the Armed Forces.

The American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars serve the communities of Antrim, Bennington, Francestown and Greenfield with pride. They are both dedicated to the continued wellbeing of all veterans. Their service to the nation continues by their members’ dedication to the patriotism and traditions of the United States. By providing a positive example to youth and other citizens, these veterans promote the concept and benefits of service to the nation and community. If you are a veteran, please join us as we continue to support our veterans and serve our towns. ✨



Steven Roy, American Legion Post 50 Commander, Don Paige, American Legion Post 50, and Jim Creighton, American Legion Post 50, at the Maplewood Cemetery.

## Antrim Eclectic Book Club

Steve Ullman, Coordinator

Before Book Club members plunge into their annual winter hibernation, we will be reading one more book, *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles. Not only has this novel sold more than two million copies, but it has also inspired an entire Showtime series.

Here’s the plot: In 1922, a Soviet court sentences Rostov, a work-shy and thoroughly shameless nobleman, to a life term to be served in servants’ quarters within the Metropol, a historic Moscow hotel. The human relationships and spiritual insights that Rostov develops during his thirty-two years of “riches-to-rags” imprisonment form the core of this compelling bestseller.

Please join us at the James A. Tuttle Library between 2:15 and 3:15 p.m. on Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. We warmly welcome all newcomers. For further information, please email Steve Ullman at [stephenullman@gmail.com](mailto:stephenullman@gmail.com). ✨



**NEED FREE CLASSES?**  
**Call ... 464-5285**  
Help with HiSet, (new GED), Math, Reading,  
Writing, Resumes, and ESOL

**Call for more information today!**

**Project LIFT Adult Education**  
63 West Main Street, Hillsboro  
Services also in Antrim, Bennington, and Peterborough  
at convenient locations.

and nearby are two other houses that have been stenciled. Perhaps they are the work of Uncle Natt as well. It seems there was no end to the creativity of Uncle Natt.

All in all, Uncle Natt was an active member of the community, artistic, smart, creative, and, as found in the *Nashua Daily Telegraph* in 1888, "...is the oldest man in (Antrim), being eighty-six..." and a "...venerable and highly respected townsman." The *History of Mont Vernon* referred to Uncle Natt as "...a respected citizen of (Antrim)..." In 1892, the *Hillsborough Messenger* wrote, under the Antrim section, "Among the veteran voters of the town who were present at the election was the venerable Nathaniel Parker, who at the age of ninety is still straight and active..."

In 1893, Article 9 of the Antrim town warrant was for the partial support of Nathaniel Parker. This article was ultimately dismissed, and initially I thought that it was because shortly after that, Uncle Natt may have become ill and was taken to Grasmere in Goffstown to live out his days. But perhaps it was Uncle Natt who requested it to be dismissed, because he did not want or need the charity. Whatever the reason, Uncle Natt lived a long and well-respected life in Antrim until he died at Grasmere in Goffstown on January 17, 1896, at the age of ninety-four.

As I said, Uncle Natt is buried in the North Branch Cemetery, and according to the records of the North Branch Cemetery Association, they purchased the gravestone for Uncle Natt. His gravestone faces west, which is customary for some African Americans, the explanation being that the dead should not have to turn around when Gabriel blows his trumpet in the eastern sunrise. In other cases, it was because black people were not considered equal and so their grave-stones would face away from the rest of the cemetery. But whatever the reason, "Uncle Natt Parker", as his gravestone reads, was a much-respected man around town, and really, who could ask for more?

Next time you're in the area, stop by the cemetery, take a look around, and maybe leave a flower or two for Uncle Natt.

*Author's note: Nothing more is known about the Parker Spool Curve, so if there is anyone familiar with this device, please get in contact with me or the Antrim Historical Society. ✨*

**GET A RIDE!**

CVTC provides "no-fee" transportation to non-emergency medical and support services through our Volunteer Driver Program. Monadnock region residents who lack access to transportation due to age, disability or other limiting circumstances are encouraged to contact us.

1-877-428-2882, ext. 5  
www.cvtc-nh.org

## Antrim Grange

Renee Mercier-Gerritsen, Grange Master

Antrim Grange is still moving full steam ahead in our community! We appreciate all of the support we received at our Penny Sale on Labor Day weekend and then again at our Silent Auction and Apple Crisp Social during the annual Antrim Home & Harvest Festival. We raised more money at all three of these fundraisers to put towards our \$15,000 LCHIP matching roof fund. Although we are not planning any more immediate fundraisers, donations towards our roof fund are always accepted by sending a check to Beth Merrill. Attn: Antrim Grange Roof Fund, 107 West Street, Antrim, NH 03440.

Seven members of Antrim Grange recently attended the NH State Grange Convention at the Holiday Inn in Concord. Antrim Grange was acknowledged by our General Deputy as being the top scoring Grange in the state of NH. This is based on things asked of us throughout the year that we need to do to get points and we excelled in this. We are proud that currently three of our Antrim Grange members hold State Grange officer positions. Being a State Grange officer is a prestigious and well-respected honor. We congratulate Arthur Merrill, Gloria Davis and Beth Merrill on their election to the state-level positions of Overseer, Ceres and Executive Committee positions, respectfully.

continued on page 18

## Edmunds **ACE** Hardware

**MAIN STREET  
Antrim**

588-6565

**MAPLE STREET  
Henniker**

428-3265

**OPEN**

Monday – Saturday • 7 am – 5:30 pm



Now offering **FedEx** shipping  
at our Antrim location

[www.edmundsstore.com](http://www.edmundsstore.com)



# Community Calendar



## DECEMBER 2022

- 1 **Homemade Holiday Crafts for Kids** • Recreation Department office • 3:15–4:15 p.m.
- 3 **Santa Claus is Coming to Town!** • Friends of the Tuttle Library • arriving at the Dunlap Gazebo at 4 p.m.
- 3 **Parents' Night Out** • Antrim Recreation Department • 5–8 p.m.
- 8 **Homemade Holiday Crafts for Kids** • Recreation Department office • 3:15–4:15 p.m.
- 10 **Gift of Lights** • Community Bus Trip to NH Motor Speedway • Recreation Department • leaves at 5 p.m.
- 15 **Eclectic Book Club** • *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles • Tuttle Library • 2:15 p.m.
- 15 **Homemade Holiday Crafts for Kids** • Recreation Department office • 3:15–4:15 p.m.
- 15 **Community Supper** • Hosted by the Antrim Grange • at the First Presbyterian Church • 5:30 p.m.
- 15 **Antiracism Study Group** • meet via ZOOM • 6:30 p.m.
- 16 **Festive Holiday Celebration in Memorial Park** • Recreation Department • 3:30–5 p.m.
- 16 **The Polar Express** • Pajama Party Movie night for families • Recreation Department at Town Hall • 6:30–8 p.m.
- 24 **Christmas Candlelight Service** • First Presbyterian Church • 7 p.m.
- 24 **Christmas Eve Service** • Antrim Baptist Church • 7 p.m.
- 31 **New Years Noon Celebration** • Tuttle Library • 12 p.m.



## JANUARY 2023

- 7 **Open Skate at Everett Arena, Concord** • Recreation Department • leaves at 11 a.m.
- 18 **Fire & Rescue Safety** Fire Chief Marshall Gale • Antrim Grange program • First Presbyterian Church • 7 p.m.
- 19 **Community Supper** • at the First Presbyterian Church • 5:30 p.m.
- 22 **Lunar New Year week** at the Tuttle Library

## FEBRUARY 2023

- 11 **Annual Chili Cook-off** at the Tuttle Library
- 13 **Mardi Gras week** at the Tuttle Library
- 16 **Community Supper** • at the First Presbyterian Church • 5:30 p.m.
- 22 **Meet the Candidates Night** • sponsored by The Antrim Grange • Town Hall • 7 p.m.

## ONGOING EVENTS



**Southwest NH Tour of Lights • month of December**, tour holiday decorated houses in Antrim and neighboring communities. Map will be available at the Recreation Department.

**Al-Anon** • Wednesdays • 6 p.m. • Presbyterian Church

**Antrim-Bennington Food Pantry** • Saturdays • 10–noon • Antrim Baptist Church (all are welcome, regardless of town residence)

**Gentle Slow Flow Yoga** • Wednesdays • 5:30–6:30 p.m. • Town Hall second floor

**Indoor Walking (18 & older)** • Mondays • 7–7:45 a.m. • Town Gym

**Legos Group** • Mondays • 3:30 p.m. • Tuttle Library

**Pickleball (18 & older)** • Wednesdays, Beginners/Introductory • 3:30–4 p.m. and Recreational play open to all • 4–5:30 p.m. • Town Gym

**Pick-Up Basketball (18 & older)** • Tuesdays • 7–8:30 p.m. • Town Gym

**Revival Shop** • Saturdays • 10–2 p.m. • Presbyterian Church

**Story Time** • Wednesdays • 3:30 p.m. • Tuttle Library

**Story Time** • Fridays • 10 a.m. • Tuttle Library

**Tech Help** • Wednesdays • 3–5:30 p.m. • Tuttle Library

**Zumba** • Mondays • 5:30–6:30 p.m. • Town Gym

## Great Brook School

Kat Foecking, GBS Principal

What an incredible fall we have been having. The foliage and weather have been outstanding! GBS is bringing back some great traditions this year. Starting this month, we will have monthly roller-skating evenings for students. These are a great way for our kids to spend a Friday evening with their friends. Our staff and PTO are amazing at volunteering their time to supervise these evenings. Any other parents or community members that would like to volunteer at these events should email me ([kfoecking@conval.edu](mailto:kfoecking@conval.edu)).

We are also excited that our eighth-grade Washington, DC, trip is going to take place again this year. After a two-year hiatus, we are excited to bring our students on this tour of our nation's capital. This trip is very expensive (\$900/student), and our goal is to make sure that all eighth-grade students can attend. If you are interested in helping a student attend this trip, please email me ([kfoecking@conval.edu](mailto:kfoecking@conval.edu)) for more information.

You can follow all of the events that are happening at GBS on our website ([gbs.convalsd.net](http://gbs.convalsd.net)). ❁



GBS Cross Country Team

### Antrim Grange continued from page 16

Also, five members recently cleaned up our two-mile section of Route 31 that we sponsor. Thank you, Armond, Arthur, Tad, Stephen and Dennis for stepping in to do this important service that keeps our roads clean.

We will be making and decorating cookies for Santa's visit, as is our tradition for numerous years now. This year, it is being held a little later than usual, but we will accommodate as we always do!

Antrim Grange is made on traditions and another one we are upholding again this year is hosting the Community Supper on December 15<sup>th</sup>. Dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. Donations are accepted but not required. Come spend some holly jolly time with fellow community members!

On January 18<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. at the Antrim Presbyterian Church, we have arranged a special public program with Fire Chief Marshall Gale as our special guest. He will be discussing and helping people learn and understand fire and rescue safety techniques and things you may need to know in an emergency. I am sure he will bring a couple of co-workers to help out, too. Everyone is welcome and refreshments will be served after the program.

Our Meet the Candidates Night will be held February 22 at the Antrim Town Hall at 7 p.m. (with a snow date of March 1). This is a chance to meet the people running for local offices and ask them any questions you may have. There will be refreshments to follow as Granges are known to feed our guests whenever we get a chance.

We hope everyone has a safe, happy and healthy holiday season and look forward to seeing you at our January educational program meeting with Chief Gale. ❁

— LIMRIK WEBSITE —

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

**INDEPENDENT LIVING,  
ASSISTED LIVING,  
AND MEMORY CARE**

**SCHEDULE  
A TOUR  
603-924-3691**

Scott-Farrar at Peterborough proudly provides a safe, caring, and friendly community that local seniors call home. Whether it's a sitting down for a cup of coffee with a neighbor, joining a yoga class, or sharing your favorite book during book club, our community offers seniors easy and convenient access to a full social life.

NON-PROFIT 501(C)  
CHARITABLE  
ORGANIZATION

**SCOTT FARRAR.COM**  
AT PETERBOROUGH





## The Old Camp

Joan Gorga

Frank and I are blessed—or perhaps cursed—with owning the old family camp. This fall, instead of embarking on another epic camping adventure, we decided to commit the time and money we might otherwise have spent on a trip to fixing up “the camp,” as it has always been called. Admittedly, it was my idea of what we should do, and I suspect at least some of you will sympathize with Frank here for some inexplicable reason.

Work on the camp has to be a labor of love. There is no road in and no easily discernable trail, but it is accessible by water, a mile from the public boat launch. There’s also no electricity, no plumbing, no hot water, no flush toilet, no shower, no TV, poor cell phone signal... In short, one enters a completely different world when rounding the rocky point and heading into the cove where the camp reigns. This world represents a microcosm of Antrim history and becomes increasingly unique with the passing years. Thumbs begin to twitch as video games and cell phones lose their charge and other entertainment has to be found, but the camp wears its history with pride.

I haven’t traced the exact year my grandfather, G.H. Caughey, acquired the camp land, but he was paying taxes on a woodlot known as the “Nims lot” at least as far back as 1931. In 1938, a hurricane brought extensive destruction to the area. So many trees were blown down that they could not be processed for lumber before they began to decay. G.H., as he was known to most, a thrifty-to-the-core stone mason and builder, constructed the main room of the camp with lumber milled from trees that got worm-eaten before they were processed. My twelve-year-old father, his older brothers and an assortment of other relatives and friends helped. The wormholes in the exposed wood add to the aura of the camp.

G.H. built stone steps leading up to the front door from the lake and a stone barbecue grill a little way back in the woods. These monuments still stand, and I think of my grandfather fondly as I climb the steps or cook dinner over a wood fire. Some fifteen years ago I noticed a thriving ant colony loosening some of the stones by the door and realized they had been amply fed by the crumbs that were continually swept out the front door over several generations. Now I carry all sweepings out into the woods, and thankfully, the ants have moved on.

G.H. added a bedroom after my parents married in 1952. At that time, my uncle Bob Caughey, an inventor who was investigating ways to use waste wood, was working on developing particle board. The bedroom was built almost entirely with experimental particle board—roof, walls and floors—supported by three-by-three studs placed an average of about nine inches apart. The doorway into the bedroom is only five feet, six inches high. I guess if it was high enough for G.H., it was high enough. The floor of the main room was also covered in particle board at that time.

A few years later, my father’s cousin Jack Caughey, a good-hearted man, if not known for being the brightest, added a kitchen on the east side of the main room. Again, the doorways were built a lofty five-and-a-half feet high. Maybe Jack was no taller than G.H. Unlike the bedroom, this room is not overly endowed with studs. Twenty-seven-inch-wide cabinets fit between them in a couple of spots. In 1959, just before my parents, along with their first three children, moved out of the old Flint house up at the North Branch, the relatives gathered to move an old cast iron cookstove from the Flint place to the camp. The stove was manufactured in St. Louis and had been specially shipped to the elegant Flint estate sometime before 1930, but gas and electric stoves were taking over in the modern kitchens of the late 1950s, and the Great Majestic stove was no longer wanted there. They transported the stove a mile down the lake straddled between two wooden boats, losing only one small hourglass-shaped iron piece. One elderly town character, known for enjoying his spirits, was heard to say that he was going to have to cut back on his drinking when he witnessed the Great Majestic sailing down the lake. There are probably few people left who have experience with cooking on an old wood cookstove, but I’m quite fond of it.

But this fall’s project wasn’t about enjoying hearty meals cooked on an old woodstove or catching the last rays of the day on the front porch while watching the sun set over Bald Mountain; it was about stopping the rain from pouring in the front windows, pulling up the crumbling particle board floors and making all cabinets mouse-proof again. Daylight had become increasingly visible through at least three layers of rotting flooring in the main room, and some major repairs were called for. The first order of business was removing many of the treasures donated by several generations of hard-core New Englanders who can’t stand to throw anything out. Did we really need an aluminum coffee percolator? Or that mixed-drink shaker? Or dozens of mostly-burned candles? Pots without handles, a two-legged colander...stacks of threadbare sheets and towels...that styrofoam sailboat that was the best we could afford when we were graduate students...those gas lanterns that should now be replaced by much safer solar-powered lights...a rusty old typewriter...etc.

We took the yoke out of an old canoe and used it for a barge, towed by kayak. Junk went out; lumber and cleaning materials came back. We swept, scrubbed, pounded, sanded and painted. Mouse nests came out of cabinets, drawers, stoves, shelves—more places than could possibly be imagined. Mouse tracks were scrubbed from ledges, shelves, walls and floors. The old place slowly began to take on a less forlorn look, not to mention a better smell. We sealed the bottom, back and top of one cabinet the mice had chewed

 — continued on page 22

# James A. Tuttle Library

Cindy Jewett, Director

## LIBRARY HOURS

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

## WEEKLY PROGRAMS

Mondays	Legos	3:30
Wednesdays	Tech Help	3:00 – 5:30
Wednesdays	Story Time	3:30
Friday	Story Time	10:00

## DECEMBER

### Santa Claus is Coming to Town! Saturday, Dec 3, 4 p.m.

Santa will arrive by fire truck for caroling, cocoa and cookies at the Dunlap Gazebo, sponsored by the Friends of the JA Tuttle Library. Photo opportunities will be available.

### New Year's Noon, Saturday, December 31 at 12:00 p.m.

You're invited to a New Year's celebration, at noon! Come to the library on Saturday, December 31<sup>st</sup> at noon and start the New Year off in style. We'll have party hats, noisemakers and confetti, and you can raise a glass of sparkling cider and have a sweet treat. We will all wish Antrim a Happy 2023 at 12:00 p.m. See you there!

## JANUARY

### Lunar New Year

Join us the week of January 22<sup>nd</sup> for Lunar New Year 2023, the Year of the Rabbit. We will make an origami rabbit and have many other crafts.

### Snowflakes

This January, help us make snowflakes to dress up the inside of the Children's Room windows! We'll have paper and scissors and books with pattern ideas.

### Snowmen

Make a snowman on the library lawn! Ask to borrow a snowman kit (eyes, nose, etc.) and make a snowman to greet patrons outside.

## FEBRUARY

### Crafts

This February is all about yarn! Join us in the Children's Room to try your hand at crocheting or using a loom to make a hat or scarf. We'll provide the looms and yarn.

### Annual Chili Cook-off February 11

### Mardi Gras

The week of February 13<sup>th</sup> celebrate Mardi Gras with us. We have masks and beads, and we might have a king cake.

## MEETING ROOMS

The library has four meeting rooms that are available free of charge to any organizations in Antrim, Bennington, and Deering? Reservations are on a first come, first served basis. Please give us a call to reserve a meeting room today at 603-588-6786.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that we have board games, a happy light, oximeter, and a blood pressure kit to check out? You can borrow these items for two weeks. ❁

### Thanks to ...

Ruth Benedict, Thelma Nichols and Sunny Fish for delivering *The Limrik* to sites all over town.

— Editor

*Perry*  
FAMILY DENTAL CARE

[Perryfamilydentalcare.com](http://Perryfamilydentalcare.com)

Appointments:

Antrim - 603-588-6362

Keene - 603-357-0677

Peterborough - 603-924-9241

391 West St, Keene • 18 Elm St, Antrim  
70 Main St, Peterborough



## Friends of the JA Tuttle Library

Linda Morehouse

As drivers travel north on Route 202, they are greeted by the beautiful Dunlap gazebo and the historic JA Tuttle Library. What a great way to show off our town!

Volunteers from the Friends of the Library assist the staff with many aspects of library functions. Patrons and staff appreciate our contributions in maintenance, gardening, hospitality, event planning, decorating, shelving and inventory. We are an energetic group who work well with the library staff. Our efforts allow the staff to focus on their tasks in providing excellent library services to patrons. The staff is an amazing team!

Our organization had a promotional display at the Home & Harvest Festival in September. We offered library card registrations, handouts about special events and book raffles. Thanks to everyone who stopped by to purchase a tote bag, a suncatcher, or a book raffle ticket. All of the money raised will be turned back to library programs and events.

Santa will arrive on Saturday, Dec 3, at 4 p.m., and attendees will enjoy a sing-along and hot chocolate to kick off the holiday season. The new gazebo will be the perfect setting for this event organized by the Friends of the Library. Unfortunately, the Festival of Trees will not occur this year, but our volunteers have decorated the library for the festival season to help patrons enjoy the spirit of the season.



# HENNIKER

## BOOK FARM & GIFTS



### December Special

Free \$5 Gift Certificate with the purchase of a \$25 Gift Certificate

### Hours:

Wednesday.....10-5pm	Saturday..... 10-5pm
Thursday.....9-2pm	Sunday.....closed
Friday.....10-6pm	Mon/Tues: by chance

34 Old West Hopkinton Road  
Henniker, NH 03242  
(603)-428-8888

[www.hennikerbookfarm.com](http://www.hennikerbookfarm.com)

Our new children's event is the stuffed-animal sleepover, which is planned for the new year. Children bring their stuffed animals to the library for a read-aloud and leave them overnight. The animals get into mischief while the library is closed for the night. Photos will be shared with the participants. Look for details in the library newsletter.

Have you seen the gorgeous quilts and beautiful photographs that are displayed around the library? There are many local artists who would like to display their artwork, and a committee is working with the library staff to create a framework to assist artists in planning for their displays. Stay tuned for details about how to display artwork.

One more exciting program that the Friends of the Library is offering is "Book Dash." Patrons who have an illness or injury that keeps them from going to the library should speak with the library director, and books will be delivered to their door by a Friends of the Library volunteer. Then the volunteer will return two weeks later to collect the books. Call the main desk for more information.

Our application to become a 501(3)(c) organization has been approved. We are able to accept tax-deductible donations and apply for grant money, and we have an Amazon Smile account that will provide a small percentage of each Amazon Smile purchase back to our organization. Cindy Jewett, Library Director, has applied for a \$1,000 ALA United grant to purchase museum passes and art display materials using our tax-ID number. Another grant application is in the works.

Do you have a few hours per month or per year to be an active member of our organization? Consider joining the Friends of the JA Tuttle Library. The yearly dues are \$5. Your level of commitment is up to you! Membership meetings are held quarterly. Whether you can donate a few hours a week or assist with one event per year, your contributions are appreciated! Sign up at the front desk of the library and indicate your areas of interest. Suncatchers and adult/child tote bags are for sale at the front desk. President, Linda Morehouse; Vice President, Jen Chamberlin; Secretary, Linda Tenney; Treasurer, Shelly Connolly. ✨



### Independent Registered Investment Advisor

#### Monadnock Retirement Solutions, LLC

Financial Planning, Investments, Fiduciary  
Non-Biased Portfolio Review  
Medicare Insurance  
Rollovers, IRAs



Call Today for free consultation  
603-491-4092

Tom Villeneuve RIA

into with both plywood and aluminum sheets, making it practically a bank vault, but it's worth it for mouse-proof space. Anything that could be used as a source of mouse nesting material was removed.

I thought (mostly) fondly of Uncle Bob as I peeled up section after section of different kinds of particle board, some of it still amazingly strong and solid (and hard to pry up) after seventy years. I remembered Uncle Jack proudly showing off his latest construction as I tried to figure out how to fill the ever-expanding gap between the kitchen and the main room. Probably, it's the main room that's moving downhill away from the kitchen, but either way, when you can see bare ground in between, you know that mice, chipmunks and other critters can find their way in.

A couple of my cousins built a frame for us to hold two canoes together, which allowed us to transport sheets of plywood across the lake, again towed by kayak. Luckily our next-door neighbor took it pretty well when we told her of the important role her canoe was playing in the operation. Thank you, Jane! And naturally, there were 30 mile per hour winds on both days we towed stacks of six or seven sheets of plywood across.

Once we got the sheets of plywood fitted onto the floors and stained, we had new inspiration to continue. (Thank you, Edmunds, for coming up with the cans of stain, even if I did have to race to Henniker to nab them just before the Home & Harvest parade started!) Still, nothing is square, and nothing is level; it is a distinctly uphill walk from the kitchen to the front windows in the main room. I knew I had spent too much time working there when it was the flat and level floor in our house that felt strange. We raised one end of the kitchen counter to make it closer to level so spills wouldn't drain off the end and drip through the wall into the main room; now the counter is distinctly bowed in the middle, but spills are contained and water in the sink at least runs toward the drain. It was hard to decide whether the scrubbed and newly painted kitchen shelves should be re-installed level or parallel to the wall boards. We opted for level, but they look quite skewed against the distinctly not-level boards; a coat of lime green paint begs you not to notice. Since the old kitchen door was so rotten, Frank built a completely new one, a little big at first so it could be carefully trimmed to fit the irregular space it was meant to fill, and then I carved a dramatically asymmetric new oak threshold to finish it off. No more squirrels gaining free entry through that door! But there are those who lament the demise of the old door. It's best not to think of what I have to say to them.

I cringed when I opened the can of paint I'd picked for the kitchen floor. If ever there was a goat-vomit green, this was it. But it looks wonderful on the floor and almost hides the transitions from old linoleum to tar paper to bare wood. Before painting, I slid a piece of tar paper over a crack wide

enough to see ground. That blends in nicely, too. Perhaps we'll face replacing that floor in a few more years.

I took the twelve-foot-wide screen off the front windows to paint it, thinking we were almost done, and spotted some rotten spots that had been hidden between the screen and the windows. When I poked at them, fragments of windowsill rained down on my feet and gaping holes opened up. Discouraging as it was, it explained our continuing problems with water leaking in, and Frank made another of his almost daily visits to Antrim Lumber. The next day we pounded sixteen feet of pressure-treated two-by-eight into place, notched as needed and curved in two directions to fit the current shape of the cabin, and challenged mother nature to bring on the rain. She obliged with three inches that night, but hardly a drop leaked in.

Three full tubes of stove black worked wonders on the cook stove in the kitchen and the old parlor stove in the main room. Both suffered serious damage from vandals about fifteen years ago, but we have found some replacement parts, and it is a pleasure to fire them both up once again. Edmunds even had a new grate that couldn't have fit the parlor stove better if it was custom-made. A few sticks of wood quickly make the cabin comfortable and keep a mug of tea warm, as well as waking up the wasps whose nest I still haven't found. I try to dispatch them before they're fully awake, but I keep my Epi pen handy.

We still have a little more work to do—it is never-ending at the camp. I haven't finished painting all the trim the same shade of green. We used to stick to stock shades of dark green available at Edmunds, but those changed over the years, from park green to essex green to chrome green and possibly others, all of which can be found on the camp trim in various peeling and faded conditions. Maybe next summer I can finish painting it all the same shade. I've scrubbed and painted most of the worn old furniture that was worth saving and given it new life. Some may complain that the colors I've used aren't traditional, but then G.H. was color-blind, and I like the cheer of the new bright colors. The four little stools G.H. built for my brothers and sister and me sixty years ago invite the next generation back.

The *pièce de résistance* is a set of easily inflatable and deflatable mattresses that can be rolled up and stored in a mouse-proof cabinet. And they're comfortable! I can lie on my side without my hipbones hitting bottom.

I can't deny that there are times when I'm positively green with jealousy when I visit friends and relatives who have newly renovated or fully reconstructed palaces that they invariably call "The Lakehouse," but I guess my heart still lies with the camp, which most certainly has not achieved Lakehouse status. I get a certain sense of satisfaction out of creating a humble living space with my own hands, even if there is still nothing level or square. Fire up the wood stove! ❁



## Antrim Recreation

Celeste Lunetta, Recreation Director

We really hope you can take advantage of the programs we have scheduled. Any questions or suggestions, please call us at 603-588-3121 or email Celeste at [antrimreccdir@tds.net](mailto:antrimreccdir@tds.net). We always want to hear what type of programs you are looking for and want to offer programs for all of our residents. Please check the Town website, our Facebook and Instagram pages and the bulletin boards at Town Hall to find out about activities we planned after the publication date for *The Limrik*.

### SPECIAL SERIES OR ONE-DAY EVENTS

*(Please watch the town website, local newspapers and bulletin boards for information about more special events in January and February)*

**Southwest NH Tour of Lights!** We are amazed that this is our fourth year! Enter your decorated home by SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, by emailing Eren at [antrimrecreation@tds.net](mailto:antrimrecreation@tds.net). The tour is anticipated to be open December 10 through December 26. The SNHToL is a collaboration of many recreation departments. Together, we create a map of all of our communities' homes that have opted to be included on the tour. Antrim houses that enter will all be included in a prize drawing, with prizes included from local businesses. Help us all shine a little brighter this winter!

**Homemade Holidays, Crafts for Kids.** Thursdays in December, 3:15-4:15 at Antrim Recreation Office. Dec 1: Mosaic Picture Frame; Dec 8: Ornaments; Dec 15: Bath Bombs. Cost is \$10 per week. Get more info on registering by emailing [antrimrecreation@tds.net](mailto:antrimrecreation@tds.net).

**Gift of Lights Community Bus Trip** to NH Motor Speedway, Sat, Dec 10. Preregistration required. Cost is \$10 per person for the bus. The town bus will depart at 5 p.m. and return between 8 and 9 p.m.

**Festive Celebration in Memorial Park**, Fri, Dec 16, 3:30-5. Help us create a holiday wonderland at Memorial Park. Join us for decorating, singing, cocoa and general merriment.

**Parents' Night Out**, Sat, Dec 3, 5-8 p.m. We will provide a fun evening of activities, including pizza, movies on the big screen, and some games and crafts. Cost is \$15 per child; after the first child from a family, additional kids are \$5 each.

**Movie Nights at Town Hall.** Free Movies on the Big Screen at Antrim Town Hall are back! We will run movies on select Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. The movie schedule will be available on the Town website, as well as on our Facebook and Instagram pages. On Friday, Dec 16, we will have a Pajama Party Movie night for families, with a showing of *The Polar Express* from 6:30-8 p.m.

**Open Skate at Everett Arena:** Bus trip on Sat, Jan 7. Leave Town Hall at 11 a.m.; return around 2 p.m. Cost of trip is \$5 per person for bus, max of \$15 per family. The admission to the arena is \$6, and if you need a skate rental, that is available for \$6. Kids ages 14 and older can register for this trip without a guardian; 13 and younger need a guardian.

### ONGOING PROGRAMS

*Weekly, regular opportunities for you to consider!*

**Toddler Playground:** Fridays at Town Hall, 9:00-10:30 a.m. Indoor play program for ages 1-3. Music, mats, indoor

*— continued on page 24*

**BELLOWS-NICHOLS INSURANCE**  
Your road to Coverage



*Wishes you and yours a very...*

*Merry Christmas*

*And a New Year  
filled with Peace and Joy!*

---

[bellowsnichols.com](http://bellowsnichols.com)  
[janderson@bellowsnichols.com](mailto:janderson@bellowsnichols.com)  
26 Main Street, Antrim, NH  
603-588-3600



*Reliable, Quality, Professional  
Service at Competitive Rates*

**JCL SEPTIC SERVICE** LLP  
**Frank's Septic Service**

Septic Tank Pumping • Septic Installation • Leach Field Inspection  
Cover Extensions • Pipe Repair • Complete Excavation • Baffle Repairs

**588-2520 464-4802**  
**529-8818 924-4433**

LICENSED BY THE NEW HAMPSHIRE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
[www.JCLSEPTICSERVICE.com](http://www.JCLSEPTICSERVICE.com)



balls and simple climbing and floor challenges. A ton of fun for kids under 4 years old and their adult companions. Drop in; preregistration is not required. Free for Antrim residents. If ConVal Schools are closed, Toddler Playground is cancelled. Contact [antrimrecreation@tds.net](mailto:antrimrecreation@tds.net) for more information.

**Jump Rope Club:** A free afterschool program for Antrim kids who want to learn and get better at jump rope! Fridays at Antrim Town Gym, 3:30–4:30 p.m.; Dec 2–Feb 3. Contact [antrimrecreation@tds.net](mailto:antrimrecreation@tds.net) for more information.

**TaeKwonDo:** Thursdays after school with Elizabeth Kenny. This is a program that is ongoing through the year; 3:30–4:30 p.m.; \$40 per month.

**Indoor Walking for people 18 and older:** Antrim Town Gym. We also provide some hand weights and jumppropes if you wish. Walking is around perimeter of Town Gym; fitness stations provided if people are interested. Mon, 7–7:45 a.m., and Thurs, 4:45–5:30 p.m. Free for Antrim residents, non-residents pay a one-time \$25 fee for the season (Dec 5–Mar 31). Contact [antrimreccdir@tds.net](mailto:antrimreccdir@tds.net) with questions.

**Pick-Up Basketball for 18 and older:** Tues, 7–8:30 p.m. Pick-up adult basketball coordinated by Kyle Murray, Kevin Proctor and Jeremy Delisle. Contact [antrimreccdir@tds.net](mailto:antrimreccdir@tds.net) with questions.

**Zumba:** Mon, 5:30–6:30 p.m. at Antrim Town Gym with Lisa Kay Dawes. \$5 per class. Email [lisakaydawes@gmail.com](mailto:lisakaydawes@gmail.com) to get on the list...that lets you know about last minute changes!

**Pickleball for people 18 years and older:** Wednesdays at Antrim Town Gym, 3:30–4 is Beginners/Introductory, 4–5:30 open to all for recreational play. Free for Antrim residents, one-time \$25 fee for non-residents. Contact [antrimreccdir@tds.net](mailto:antrimreccdir@tds.net) with questions.

**Gentle Slow Flow Yoga:** Wed 5:30-6:30 p.m. upstairs at Antrim Town Hall. Led by instructor Corinne Pierce. She will provide a sample class on Wed, Dec 7, then a six-week session starting on Wed, Jan 4. To register, contact Celeste at [antrimreccdir@tdsnet](mailto:antrimreccdir@tdsnet) or 603-588-3121.

**NEW INITIATIVES!**

*The full details for these early 2023 programs will be available in December '22 on our Town website, bulletin boards and social media sites.*

**A-Time in A-Town! An Active Adult and Senior Program focus!** In an effort to bring back the community created by the Senior Center that was active before the pandemic, the Recreation Department is collaborating with the Tuttle Library and the Grapevine to bring regular programs for our senior adults. Several programs are going to start in January. We will have a Strong Living-type program offering balance, strength and coordination exercise on Tuesdays

and Fridays, 1:30–2:30 p.m. We will also have social/craft programs at the Town Hall from 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m., with activities alternating between Town Hall and the library between 2 and 4 p.m., and, finally, cribbage nights and movies at Town Hall on some Fridays between 5 and 8 p.m. Cribbage nights will start with instruction (all are welcome) from 5–6 p.m., followed by regular Cribbage play from 6–8 p.m. We have boards to share, and experienced instructors and players to keep things moving. We are also planning Trivia Nights, Bingo and some other great programs. We are organizing a bus trip for the first Thursday of every month, as well as some feature trips to events.

**Young Athletes Program:** Coming in Late Winter/Early Spring, we will bring back our Young Athletes Program. A collaboration with Special Olympics of New Hampshire, this is a sports readiness program for kids with and without intellectual disabilities, ages 2–7. It will run for 8 weeks in March and April.

Please contact Celeste at [antrimreccdir@tds.net](mailto:antrimreccdir@tds.net) to express interest in participating in programs, or if you have requests for activities. ✨



**Professional Remodeling by Butler Restorations LLC**

*We specialize in carefully updating antique homes to suit modern needs*

- Antique and log home structural repair
- Screened porches, decks
- Doors and windows, garage doors replaced
- Inventive solutions to vexing problems

Mike Butler, Master carpenter  
Jane Butler, Certified Aging in Place Specialist  
**www.ShortHillStudio.com • 588-2637**





## Strength With Its Beauty

William Bryk

The English composer Ethel Smyth's *Der Wald* was the first opera composed by a woman to be performed at New York's Metropolitan Opera. Its premiere was on March 11, 1903. Maurice Grau, the Met's manager, had found Smyth a tough, practical negotiator with a keen sense of the bottom line: he told her, "You certainly are a businesslike woman."

The Met's second opera composed by a woman opened December 1, 2016, a mere 113 years, 8 months, and 21 days later. This remarkable gap suggests an institutional bias against women composers at the Met. Just sayin'.

I first heard Smyth's work on a CD of British orchestral overtures, which included the overture to her comic opera *The Boatswain's Mate*. There she quotes in full the music to her feminist anthem *The March of the Women*.

Out of curiosity from my enjoyment of Smyth's music, I learned that Cicely Hamilton, one of her many friends, had set lyrics to the music. I looked them up. One passage reads:

Strong, strong, stand we at last,  
Fearless in faith and with sight new-given.  
Strength with its beauty, Life with its duty,

Smyth walked the walk: one of 100 women arrested during a suffragettes' demonstration, she conducted a performance with a toothbrush through the barred window of her cell as her comrades marched and sang the hymn in the quadrangle of Holloway Prison. There she would spend two months as an involuntary guest of His Majesty the King. One can only imagine the response of Major General John Smyth, her father, who believed that a lady performing music in public was very nearly akin to a streetwalker. To her friends and admirers, she was a hero.

\*\*\*

Autumn has come again to Antrim, New Hampshire. The red and gold leaves litter my front lawn inches deep. The evenings are comfortably cool. Clouds of calling birds fly south.



**Dr. Tom Dowling, Veterinarian**  
100 Concord Street • Antrim, NH 03440  
603 / 588-3460

I saw my first moose a few days ago while driving to town. My house is on Clinton Road, which rises from the valley of the North Branch River, passing between the heavily forested Meetinghouse and Holt Hills before abruptly turning south toward downtown Antrim. The car was about halfway up the rise, about a half-mile from my house, when I saw him. He was standing in the middle of the road, appraising my car. A bull moose often considers a moving automobile a four-wheeled challenger, best opposed by an immediate charge. I slowed, undesirous of a close encounter. My car would kill him. His 600-pound carcass would fly over the hood, through the windshield, and into me. It's happened to others. We'd both lose.

But this wasn't our day to die. The moose sauntered to the road's left grassy margin and turned toward town, shifting to a calm, fast walk. I slowly came parallel to him, as far to the right as I could.

He was an adolescent, just over five feet tall at the shoulder, not counting the neck, head, and underdeveloped, velvet-covered antlers. We'd traveled together some 300 feet when he saw a gap in the shrubbery and vanished amidst the trees of Meetinghouse Hill.

Parenthetically, the plural of moose is moose. The word was directly taken from Algonquian, an indigenous American language. Moose kept the same plural ending in English as it had in its original tongue.

A flock of some thirty-six turkeys—Mimi and I have counted—periodically passes across our land, quietly pecking at seeds and insects as they continue their migration in search of food. Apparently, they travel a circle of about five miles. Last week, I was taking my daily walk when, suddenly aware of a soft clucking, I found myself alongside the flock, which quietly melted into the shrubbery north of Cemetery Road.

A bear has come by night to raid our garbage. He pulled open one of our bins, tipped it on its side, and worked his way through the trash. He was probably disappointed. Most of its contents were gleanings from our cats' litter boxes.

Squirrels and field mice seem to find our house attractive as the season moves toward winter. Built in 1826, survivor of a 1922 tornado, it's probably sagged enough to allow them a few means of entry. However, they face implacable enemies: Cordelia, Hotspur, Orsino, and Viola, our cats, all named after Shakespearean characters, each ruthless as Richard III. Once or twice a week now, I find a dead rodent on the floor outside my bedroom door. Clearly my squad brings me tribute when they overcome one of their ancient prey, even if to show they're earning their keep.

Such events are a natural part of New Hampshire rural life.

\*\*\*

 — continued on page 26

I was driving to the Post Office to mail a large envelope to one of my brothers. The postal regulations have become so complicated about calculating postage, which is now based on an envelope's size, weight, and thickness, that standing at the counter may be the surest way to send one's larger envelopes.

The clerk glanced at my name in the return address. She looked up. "You're the guy who writes about horses," she said.

Flattered, of course I said yes. In New Hampshire, sometimes everyone seems to have had at least one memorable equine encounter. After last week's lesson, I went to Shaw's in Hillsborough to refresh the household larder. I was in very dusty riding boots and breeches. A woman on line before me looked and quipped, "I thought I was the only person who went shopping like that." I grinned. She asked where I rode. I replied that I was learning to ride at Southmowing Stables in Guilford, Vermont. She replied, "You must be William Bryk." There's something refreshing in being known to one's neighbors for adventures and misadventures on horseback instead of politics and journalism.

The adventures have come to me through the tutelage of Dorothy Crosby, the instructor who has guided my efforts since I first put my foot in a stirrup nearly six years ago, and three horses, Julio, a stubborn but endearing Morgan-Percheron mix; Toby, an elegant Thoroughbred formally known to the Jockey Club as Noble Victory; and Merlin, my present assigned horse, an 1,800-pound paint rescue colt of unknown ancestry, enormous appetite and unpredictable attitude. Nonetheless, he is teaching me a lot about how to get along with a horse. The misadventures usually come through my inexperience. There is no such thing as a bad horse—only bad riders.

After a tiring lesson last month with Merlin, I groomed and returned him to his paddock. I locked the gate and, suddenly exhausted, I leaned against it with my forearms. He ambled back and began kissing my hands. I turned them over to show I had no treats. He kissed my empty palms anyway. I was surprised and touched. When he was done, he walked away.

\* \* \*

During this past Friday's lesson, Merlin resumed being difficult. As long as I kept him at the trot, he was fine. Then he would slow and begin yanking his head toward the arena's floor. There is a careful balance between firmness and roughness that I occasionally fail to maintain. Merlin was signaling that my handling of the reins was a little rough on his mouth and he wanted that stopped, sooner rather than later. I did my best to accommodate him.

After my lesson, a group of girls and young women from Vermont Academy, a co-educational college preparatory school with an international clientele in Saxton's River, Vermont, put on a show for their parents. I stayed to watch Merlin at work with another rider in the indoor arena. He gave Elena, a gifted equestrian, no trouble at all, which says a great deal about Elena's horsemanship.

Then the riders went to the outdoor arena, where jumps had been erected. One after another, the young women and their horses went through their paces. I learn by observing other riders guide their mounts. These young ladies performed beautifully.

Though shaped like a beer keg with four legs, Merlin was trained to be a hunter. He is brave, powerful, fast, and graceful. Elena took him to the trot and then the canter. They circled the arena. Then he thundered for the first fence.

Three strides from the fence, Elena leaned forward almost to Merlin's neck and flying mane, her knees at his upper sides, asking him to jump.

Two strides from the fence, his hindquarters' huge muscles bulged, he raised his forelegs, the hind legs pushed off like pile drivers, and he soared over the fence like an angel. As Smyth's music inspired Cicely Hamilton to write, strength with its beauty. ✨

**At Last Cats**  
at Butterfield Farm, Antrim

Pedigree Maine Coon Kittens from Championship Lines

Visit [www.atlastcats.com](http://www.atlastcats.com)  
or call 603-588-2403  
for availability.



**Free Community Supper**  
**December 15 • 5:30 p.m.**  
*Hosted by the Antrim Grange*  
**First Presbyterian Church**  
73 Main St, Antrim

MON—FRI 8 am to 5:30 pm      [www.tylerssmallengine.com](http://www.tylerssmallengine.com)  
SAT 9 am to 1 pm

**TYLER'S SMALL ENGINE**  
SALES & SERVICE  
Route 202, Antrim, NH 03440

**588-6200**

**Ariens**      **DR** POWER EQUIPMENT  
**SCAG**      **STIHL**      **GENERAC**  
POWER EQUIPMENT

**TORO** Wheel Horse      **TIMBER WOLF**      **Husqvarna**



## Antrim Balancing Rock Adventure

Rick Wood

I recently had a conversation with Helen Whittemore about the Balancing Rock that is on her property near the base of Robb Mountain. She was looking to have a boulder image added to the brick she wanted to order for the walkway to the Donald Dunlap Memorial Gazebo at Tuttle Library. If you don't know Helen, she's a woman with endless energy—I really enjoyed our conversations.

To find an existing picture of the boulder, I first went to the Antrim Historical Society on the second floor of the Tuttle Library and asked Neil Brown, the AHS archivist and board member, if AHS had a quality picture of the boulder. He produced a half dozen images and books, but none were of the quality I thought was needed to produce a good image on a commemorative brick. That left me only one other option. I had never been to Balancing Rock, but always wanted to see it based on various stories I had heard and several *Limrik* articles I found in the archives. In re-reading the articles and talking to Helen, I still wasn't convinced I could find the boulder on my own. There just seemed to be some scope or scale missing in everything people would tell me. Like when a lifelong local resident told me how to get to the Manchester Airport for the first time, and she said "Go to Peterborough, make a left, go a while till you see the yellow house on the left, make a right turn and then follow the signs. She failed to tell me that was thirty-six miles from Peterborough. You can't even see the boulder from Google Earth for goodness' sake.



So, I enlisted John Anderson, who I was sure had taken multiple trips to the boulder as he has lived in the area his whole life. He was glad to do so. We picked a beautiful fall afternoon. I picked up John's car on Gregg Lake Road approaching the lake. We drove past Craig Road up Brimstone Corner Road till we hit the crossroad of Castor Lane/Camp Road/Harbor Road. Some may remember this as the entrance to the Girl Scout camp. But instead of going left to the camp, we took the right onto Castor Lane. After approximately fifty yards we came to a gate across the road. Helen said she welcomes anyone who wants to see the boulder; you can park in front of the gate and continue walking on the road for approximately a mile and a quarter. It's a moderate

walk with several small hills. You will then see two cabins in an open field. Between the cabins you will see a small sign directing you to the boulder path entrance. Go approximately thirty yards on the forest path and walk through a small ravine. The boulder can clearly be seen surrounded by other boulders.

We took several pictures and believe we got a good image to use on Helen's brick that will be ordered and installed at the Donald Dunlap Memorial Gazebo as part of the second brick orders in the spring. Again, Helen invites anyone interested in seeing the boulder to do so. Don't be surprised in the summer when she is at the cabin if she asks you to sign her visitor logbook.

— continued on page 28

Loving the dogs of Antrim & Beyond  
since 2006

Grooming  
Daycare  
Training  
Food Club

**Under One Woof**  
Come Play With Us!

Treats, toys,  
natural flea  
& tick control,  
collars, leashes,  
no-pull harnesses  
& much more!

177 Clinton Rd, Antrim 588-2030  
newoof@tds.net www.underonewoof.info

 **Alberto's**   
ITALIAN RESTAURANT  
"Best Food by a Dam Site"  
FAMILY DINING SINCE 1945  
~ Italian and American Fare ~  
Homemade Pizza, Steaks, Ribs, Chicken Parmigiana, Veal Piccata  
Fresh Fish, Lasagne, Pasta, Italian Sausage, Kids Selections  
Daily Specials ~ Gluten Free Options

OPEN 5 PM DAILY 7 DAYS A WEEK RESERVATIONS TAKE-OUT WWW.ALBERTOSNH.COM FIND US ON FACEBOOK BENNINGTON, NH PH: 603-588-6512



## Where in Antrim?

Dawne Hugron, George Davison, Marshall Gale, Rick Sudsbury and Therese Wood all correctly identified the location of the small pond off Miltimore Road near the stone church. George Davison added, “Years ago Jim Rymes had a horse and there was a nice run-in shelter for it by that pond.” We drew Dawne’s name out of the bowl, and she won the gift certificate donated by the Henniker Book Farm.

The names of all who correctly identify the location of this photo by December 15 will be entered into a drawing for a \$25 gift certificate for Flag Leaf Bakery. Email your response to [editor@antrimlimrik.org](mailto:editor@antrimlimrik.org) or call 603-588-2569. Photo by Frank Gorga. ✨



### Antrim Balancing Rock Adventure continued from page 27

Speaking of the Donald Dunlap Gazebo, you may have noticed that it now has a ceiling light on during the nights, so the drive into town from the South is even more spectacular in the evenings. Now that electricity is active, we plan on lighting it up with a Holiday tree this year. Stay tuned. In addition, John Dunlap created a special center board marker with Don’s name on it with a couple of the fan designs the Dunlaps were so famous for. It’s spectacular if you haven’t seen it. By the time you read this we should have the first order of commemorative bricks laid down between the newest library front entrance and the gazebo. Thanks to all who ordered a brick—they not only bring a real charm to the gazebo in how they look but also provide the ability to long remember so many folks who have contributed so much to the town. For those who ordered a 2<sup>nd</sup> Commemorative Brick or a paper certification, you can get those directly at the Library, just asked the staff.

If you didn’t get your commemorative brick during the first order, no worries, as we have already started collect-

ing orders for a spring installation. We’ll announce a cut-off date the closer we get to spring, but I would suggest you not hesitate, lest you forget. To order a commemorative brick, either grab a pamphlet inside the library or go online at <https://www.bricksrus.com/donorsite/bricksfortuttle>. A 4” x 8” brick with 3 lines of text totaling 54 characters can be ordered for \$30, or an 8” x 8” brick with 6 lines and 108 characters for \$70. You can also order a second brick (same cost as the originals) to take home and put on a shelf or in your garden. We also offer a printed copy of the brick to frame. If you have any questions about the gazebo or commemorative brick project, please contact Rick Wood at [rd\\_wood@comcast.net](mailto:rd_wood@comcast.net). ✨

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

### Are You Enjoying This Issue of *The Limrik*?

Are you willing to help it arrive in your mailbox each quarter?

There is currently a need for

- contributing writer
- area reporter
- production
- advertisers

Please reach out to Joan Gorga at 603-588-2569 or [editor@antrimlimrik.org](mailto:editor@antrimlimrik.org) to learn more!



### Cutter Flooring & Blinds

24 Main Street, Antrim NH 03440

Tyler Martin (Owner)

603-812-3106

Store: 603-588-3711

## Fall Highlights from Avenue A YOUTH LEADERSHIP, EXTENDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES, & ADVENTURE!

Jacqueline Roland, Director of Teen Programs

Fall flew by here at Avenue A, filled with the excitement of new programs and the return of old favorites! We kicked off a pilot session of our “Pizza Talk” group this fall, in partnership with Connected Families, NH. Pizza Talk gave teens a weekly opportunity to connect and support each other through day-to-day stressors. Our facilitators were amazed by the depth of conversation and community formed over each pizza dinner. We can’t wait to offer another session of Pizza Talk in January!

Our incredible team of volunteers from All Saints’ Church in Peterborough led a fall session of Outdoor Adventures for middle schoolers in September and October. The group’s weekly outings featured hide-and-seek in the woods, frog-catching escapades, hay jumping contests, and hours of fun in nature! Thank you to our volunteers Harriet, Heidi, John, Cindy, and Paige for scouting local hiking spots for the group, carpooling middle schoolers to our adventures, and leading the weekly gatherings.

In November we celebrated the joyful return of our cooking program! Formerly Dinner Club, the group was renamed “T.A.C.O” (Teens Are Cooking Organization) by our teens. Supported by our dream team of cooking volunteers—Sue Conklin, Nancy Blair, and Nancy Langrall, our teens plan meals, cook and eat together. During meals, a jar of random questions travels around the table, sparking lively conversations ranging from world travel to favorite memories. We are thankful for the support of our friends at the Antrim Presbyterian Church, who generously allow us to use their kitchen for this program.

October marked the end of our 2022 season of pick-up basketball! From March-October (with a few breaks in between) we offered pick-up basketball nights for guys in high school and recent grads at the Antrim Town Gym. Over forty guys participated in the program, building community, honing skills, and staying active! We are grateful to Ray Abbott and Mike Connolly for making this program possible,

and the Antrim Recreation Department for giving us gym time! We can’t wait to start the program again in March.

Our legendary Game Masters, John Anderson and Mark Murdough, brought back Tabletop Game Club for a fall season, in partnership with the Tuttle Library! Teens enjoyed weekly gatherings playing unique tabletop games like “Oceans” and “Evolution.”

Two of our programs became official Extended Learning Opportunity’s for ConVal High School students this fall. Now, teens can earn credit for participating in our Woodworking/Carpentry Crew and our Creative Writing Club! Our Carpentry Crew is almost finished with their TSA (Tool Shed Annex) project at The Grapevine. The group looks forward to indoor projects this winter, including building items to include in next year’s Grapevine Auction.

Throughout the year we’ve provided leadership skill-building opportunities for teens at our programs and during special experiential leadership day trips to Friends Forever International (FFI) in Durham. This was made possible by funding from The Grand Monadnock Rotary. Our October trip to FFI featured workshops on leadership, conflict resolution, communication, and a service project at the seacoast area food pantry. We look forward to another trip in February!

Our parent-volunteers led another awesome session of Mountain Biking Group from October through November, tackling trails in Greenfield, Hancock, Peterborough, and Dublin! Thank you to our awesome fall biking volunteers Tom Faber, Tom Moritz and Meredith Lyons.

An exciting fall highlight for us was the BeastMaster fundraiser, where Bantam Grill in Peterborough raised thousands of dollars to support our programs for local youth. Thank you to owner and chef Harris Welden, the entire Bantam staff, and all the amazing community members who attended the dinner in support of us. Please consider stopping by Bantam Grill for a delicious meal—and thank them for supporting our programs for local youth!

We look forward to more joyful days together in the months ahead—we have a Gift Making Workshop coming up in December, a Winter Clothing Day, holiday party, and more! For more information about our programs visit [avenueatc.org](http://avenueatc.org) or email [avenuea@grapevinenh.org](mailto:avenuea@grapevinenh.org). ❁

## The Revival Shop

GENTLY-USED CLOTHING FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

**OPEN EVERY SATURDAY**  
**10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**  
and BY APPOINTMENT

Leave a message at 588-2209 and your call will be returned.

**First Presbyterian Church, 73 Main Street, Antrim**

# KNAPTON

INSURANCE

## READE WOODS

HOME

AUTO

BUSINESS

LIFE & HEALTH

---

(603) 464-3422

KnaptonInsurance.com

22 School St | Hillsborough, NH



# Grapevine

Melissa Gallagher, Executive Director

We are wishing all of you a peaceful and happy holiday season in 2022. Since January, we have distributed over \$24,000 in direct financial assistance to local families during a time where basic necessities have been harder to afford. Are you or someone you know struggling to cover bills, pay for groceries or experiencing a financial hardship? Please call the Grapevine; we may be able to help.

We are able to provide our many programs and resources because of local, individual support. Please consider donating to our organization this holiday season. We are a local, trusted non-profit serving our community for over twenty-five years. You can easily give at our website, [grapevinenh.org](http://grapevinenh.org) by clicking on the GIVE button. You can also give of your time and talent by volunteering—please contact us to learn more. As always, we truly value your feedback. You can reach me at [melissag@grapevinenh.org](mailto:melissag@grapevinenh.org).

## A FOND FAREWELL

We want to take this opportunity to thank and recognize Grapevine staff member Nancy Macalaster. Nancy began her journey with the Grapevine ten years ago as a facilitator for the Better Beginnings programs, in addition to supporting families through home-based visiting services. In that time Nancy has connected with hundreds of families and has formed deep-rooted relationships with not only children, but also their parents and various members of their circles and community. She reflected upon her decades of work in early childhood development and her time at the Grapevine saying, “It’s all about the relationships. What I’ve loved most about this work is the families, and getting to see them grow into substantial adults is inspiring.” After dedicating over sixty years to a career in early childhood development, working with various organizations in differing capacities, Nancy is retiring at the end of November. So much about what we treasure in Nancy and will miss most is her ability to easily connect with people. She’s offered gentle guidance and created a non-judgmental environment for caregivers to form trust and be vulnerable, which is often hard to do. Nancy set the standard for soothing, age-appropriate spaces for our youngest children in our “baby group” and will be fondly remembered for her sheepskin rugs! Thank you, Nancy for your years of love and dedication and for making the Grapevine, and the world, a better place!

## A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU

To **Bantam Grill** of Peterborough. For the 8<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, Bantam hosted the BeastMaster’s Classic dinner, with 100% of the proceeds donated to The Grapevine. We designate these funds to our Avenue A Teen Center. Owner Harris Welden and his entire staff—especially Russell Novotny, Morgan Jadis and our own Board Chair Rose Novotny—put so much into this event, which raised over **\$7,000!** We are incredibly grateful and honored to receive this gift!

To **Crotched Mountain and the EpicPromise Foundation** for their \$7,400+ donation! Crotched Mountain held an auction this past summer of vintage ski chairs and donated the proceeds to the Grapevine!

To the **Keene Community Kitchen** for selecting Antrim and the Grapevine as host to the Mobile Food Pantry event in October. This special event provided fresh produce (some from our local Tenney Farm), meats and other healthy foods to forty-three individuals in our community. We hope to host this event again!

## SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Please contact us at 603-588-2620 or email [info@grapevinenh.org](mailto:info@grapevinenh.org).

**Free Tax Preparation**—IRS-certified tax preparer Larry Schwartz is providing free tax preparation at The Grapevine this tax season. All returns will be filed electronically. Call now to schedule your appointment as slots fill quickly.

**Positive Solutions for Families**—Parenting young children from birth to 5 years old can be a challenge. Learn ways to encourage positive behavior: use praise and encouragement, set up daily routines, understand the reason behind the behavior, make the most of play time and deal with challenging behaviors. Program starts Wed, Mar 8, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. and runs for 6 weeks. This group will be offered virtually over Zoom.

**Parents of Teens!** Are you amazed at how different things are nowadays? This time can feel challenging as you try to stay connected to your teen when their natural instinct is to separate from you. Join other parents monthly on Zoom as we cover a variety of topics. Our next meeting will be held on Wed, Dec 14, at 7 p.m. and the focus will be on **use and influence of social media**. Call or email for more information.

## ONGOING PROGRAMMING AND RESOURCES

### Kinship Navigator Program

If you are a grandparent parenting your grandchildren or a relative caregiver, you are not alone. Our Kinship Navigator, Rosemary Nugent, a parenting grandmother, can offer emotional support, help accessing resources, connection to other relative caregivers, and a friendly voice to check in as you need it. Give us a call or email Rosemary at [rosemaryn@grapevinenh.org](mailto:rosemaryn@grapevinenh.org).

### Weekly Child & Parent Programs

The Grapevine welcomes all children from birth to 5 years of age and their parents to our weekly children’s programs. Note: Better Beginnings enrollment is currently full, but please contact us to learn about options!

- Parent-Child Playgroups in Hillsborough: Mon, 1–2:30, & Thurs, 10–noon



## The Grapevine

- Better Beginnings Parent/Child Groups: Mon, Tues, Wed 9:30–11:30
- Better Beginnings for Babies (ages newborn to 1 yr): Thurs, 10–11:30
- Stay & Play: Thurs, 9:30–11

### Dads Campfire

We have heard that dads don't usually get the time to talk together about being a parent and all of the other things that come up along the way. The group meets with Rick Edmunds the first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. Pizza provided. Please contact Carol for more information.

### Community Wood Bank is open!

The purpose of our community wood bank is to act as a temporary resource in emergency situations for those who use wood as their primary heat source. Please contact us if you are able to help us deliver to a neighbor who finds themselves suddenly in need.

### Community Tool Lending Shed is open!

Do you need a special tool or piece of equipment? Please email the Toolshed Volunteers at [toolshed@grapevინeh.org](mailto:toolshed@grapevინeh.org) with your request or if you would like to donate tools! *Please do not drop off any tools without contacting us first.*

## WELCOME AND FAREWELL

A warm welcome to our newest board member, Jenine Rubin of Antrim! Jenine recently moved to the area from Colorado and brings an extensive background in marketing and strategic planning as well as decades of volunteerism and serving on boards. She is also a gifted baker (which we've already benefited from)! We are honored to have her join us!

Farewell to Kathleen Robbins of Hancock, who has served on our board for seven years. Kathleen brought her skills in nursing, volunteer experience at Antrim's former girls' shelter and interest in substance use prevention as significant contributions to our organization. We are so grateful for Kathleen's commitment and thank her for her service!

**An additional thank you** to the many people who supported The Grapevine in so many ways over the fall, including: the **local donors and shoppers** who visited our Fall Yard Sale helping us raise over \$1,000 and our 2022 Online Auction helping us surpass our \$6,000 goal; the **Avenue A Woodworking Club volunteers** for the occasional fix-its at the Grapevine and for working steadily to build an extension for our Community Tool

Shed; our Fall Wood Party volunteers who helped us sort and stack wood at the Ben Pratt Community Wood Bank: **Peter Moore, Sarah & Simon Beaumont, Erica, Leo, Fin & Zander Snyder, Lisa Hennessy, Melissa & Andy Chapman, Shane Colburn, Melissa Gallagher & Rick Wood; Jeff Richard "Rippy" Snyder** for fixing the floor in our playhouse and helping us create a new coat hanging wall for our families; **Rick Edmunds** for donating and installing a Pur filter for our kitchen faucet at the Grapevine; the volunteers of **Project Linus** for their donation of warm blankets for us to distribute to families; **Cornucopia Project, End 68 Hours of Hunger, Tuttle Library, Southern NH Services and Monadnock Humane Society** for joining us for our resource fair at the Mobile Food Pantry event.

The Grapevine is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit family and community resource center located at 4 Aiken Street in Antrim, behind the Tuttle Library. For more information call 603–588–2620, or email [info@grapevინeh.org](mailto:info@grapevინeh.org). We gratefully accept donations, which are tax deductible. Please make your donation online at [www.grapevინeh.org](http://www.grapevინeh.org) or mail a check payable to The Grapevine to PO Box 637, Antrim, NH 03440. Visit us on social media at [facebook.com/grapevინeh.org](https://facebook.com/grapevინeh.org) and Instagram: [@thegrapevinefrc](https://instagram.com/thegrapevinefrc). ❄️



Nancy Macalaster having fun with children on a snowy day!

# Come in, Eat and Enjoy!

## **GREAT BRICK OVEN PIZZA**

*Hot Steak & Cheese Subs*

*Ocean Fresh Seafood*

*Home Made Onion Rings*

*Spicy Buffalo Wings*

**BIG Burgers**

**Rick & Diane's**  
**588-3388**

*Delicious Deli Subs*

*Garden Salads*

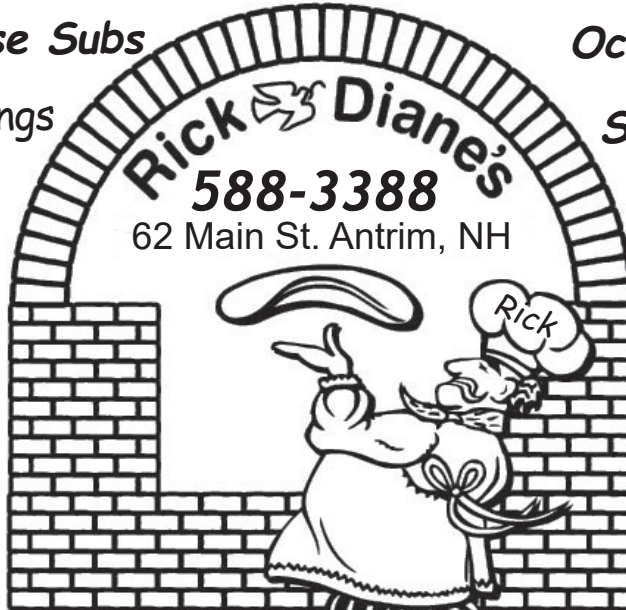
62 Main St. Antrim, NH

**Calzones**

**OPEN**  
Sunday  
11am - 8 pm

Tuesday - Saturday  
11 am - 9 pm

*Closed Monday*



**WE NOW  
DELIVER**



# **BEST RECIPE - BEST PIZZA**

5% DISCOUNT For all Fire & Police Dept. Personnel and Seniors 65+

The *Limrik*  
PO Box 84  
Antrim, NH 03440

**PRSR STD  
ECRWSS  
U.S.POSTAGE  
PAID  
EDDM Retail**

POSTAL PATRON  
ANTRIM, NH 03440