

# The Limrik

## A Quarterly Journal

*For, by and about the people of Antrim.*

Vol. 34 #3  
June 2025



### Antrim In The Evening

#### 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY SEASON—2025

Jonas Taub



This summer **Antrim In The Evening** celebrates thirty years of summer concerts in Memorial Park. When the concert series began it was the only summer concert series in the area for twenty miles or more (Jaffrey, Milford, Keene and Walpole had concerts). Now, with outdoor concerts in nearby towns nearly every night of the week in the summer, Antrim In The Evening continues to present a lively and varied schedule of concerts and events. Plus, watch for Rick and Diane's Pizza Night, an Ice Cream Social, Antrim Lions BBQ for the final show, and more. Come join us for our 30<sup>th</sup> season. All shows run from 6–8 p.m.

The season kicks off on **July 9** with the return of the ever-popular **Wildlife Encounters**. Get up close and personal with a diverse array of interesting animals. Learn about their

lifestyles, habitats and more. Always a fun Encounter and a great way to start the season.

**Blame It On Sally**, an original folk duo, will be our first musical show on **July 16**. This duo from Dublin (April Claggett and Rhine Singleton) plays all original songs, switching out guitars, dobro, basses and vocals. The music is its own blend of rollicking, rootsy, poetic and playful Americana. They will be joined by guest drummer Gary Fuges.

**C2Revue**, a captivating guitar-vocal duo featuring Chris Albertson on guitar and Cait Murphy as vocalist, will grace the bandstand on **July 23**. Chris and Cait's love and passion for making music together bring an emotional depth to their music, creating heartfelt performances that captivate the

— continued on page 3

### Smiling New Faces at Antrim Marketplace

Joan Gorga

Jay Patel says he was visiting a cousin in Weare last summer when he came to Antrim and saw that Antrim Marketplace was for sale. He liked the look and feel of the town and the area and had always wanted to own his own business, so he took the leap and purchased Antrim Marketplace last November. Now he lives upstairs, above the laundromat section, with his wife and sixteen-month-old daughter. His sister lives with them, too. They come originally from the state of Gujarat on the northwestern coast of India. Jay did admit that the weather there was a little bit warmer...



Jay Patel, new owner of Antrim Marketplace. Photo by Frank Gorga

Jay says he likes to work by himself and talk with people as they come in. He says people have been friendly, both in the store and in the town, and people say they like the improvements he's made, such as upgrades to the freezers, moving things around and changing the counter. The "Beer Cave" walk-in cooler has been moved to the front of the store, and the sign invites you to "come on in." I passed on that invitation while not so fondly remembering the many years I spent working in a cold room, but for those not so inhibited, it's the place to get your cold beer!

A steady stream of customers moved through when I was there at noon on a Thursday, with many people purchasing sandwiches and meat from the deli and butcher counters. I had to fight the urge to join in as each customer stepped up with a smile and was greeted with the same.

The meat is all butchered onsite by Roger Murray, who stayed on when the market was sold and is keeping up the tradition of high quality meat offerings that has long been a feature of Antrim's grocery store. Hamburger is ground from ribeye steak and sirloin tips. All the fresh

— continued on page 2

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## — 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:

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Antrim, NH 03440

## — ADVERTISING RATES —

Half page (back page)	SIZE: 5" H x 7 1/2" W
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\$75 per issue	
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\$50 per issue	
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\$125 for 4 issues	

Required file format: PDF or JPEG

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## — SUBMISSIONS —

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

## Antrim Marketplace continued from page 1

foods, such as salads and meatloaf, are homemade as well, and they plan to offer more as summer business kicks in. David Simpson is the new deli manager.

Jay explained that their supplier of both produce and meat is AG—Associated Grocers of New England, which reliably delivers to Antrim twice a week. AG is a retailers' cooperative based in New Hampshire and now serving hundreds of independent retailers throughout all of New England and New York. They were founded by a group of independent New Hampshire food retailers who recognized that by banding together they could combine their purchasing power to help them compete with the large supermarket chains. Interestingly, the AG distribution center in Pembroke has one of the largest rooftop arrays of solar panels in New Hampshire, as part of their commitment to having as low an impact on the environment as possible. Being part of this retailers' cooperative allows Jay to offer good prices at Antrim Marketplace.

Jay has set new hours for Antrim Marketplace—he's open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. on weekdays and 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. He says his wife sometimes comes in to help, but mostly he is just enjoying running his own business.

Why not stop in, check out the newly renovated Antrim Marketplace, and support the effort to keep fresh meat and produce available in our local market? If you don't see something you'd like them to carry, feel free to mention it, and they'll see what they can do. ❁

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hearts of their audience. Their diverse repertoire spans six decades of great music, including Pop, Jazz, Blues, Rock and the Great American Songbook. They are being accompanied by the creative rhythm section of the outstanding Wes Brown on bass and the incomparable Brian Quinn on drums. Come, relax and enjoy a unique and inviting evening of great music!

**July 30** features **IvyChum**, a folk-rock trio featuring vocal harmonies backed by guitar, slide guitar, and percussion. IvyChum shows offer mainly original songs with a few selective covers, many with a humorous edge, sure to please all ages!

On **August 6** Antrim In The Evening will present **A Celebration of Peter, Paul and Mary**. This performance brings together four local musical groups, nearly a dozen musicians, to perform the music of the legendary Peter, Paul and Mary. Their music has touched generations of listeners and is part of the musical soul of America. Performances will feature Decatur Creek, Kota, Off The Cuff, and Volkert Volkorsz & Scott Heron. This will be a show for all ages, with plenty of opportunities to sing along, or just sit back and enjoy the great songs and harmonies.

**Great Groove Theory** returns to the Bandstand on **August 13**. This group plays funky dance music with one foot firmly rooted in the blues. Feel free to get up and dance. The Groove is irresistible. This concert is sponsored by Bank of New Hampshire.

The Season Finale on **August 20** will feature the Bluegrass of **Mr. Bill** and a BBQ served up by the Antrim-Bennington Lions. Mr. Bill will present a show of traditional and contemporary bluegrass, including some original music. The four members of Mr. Bill have played together for many years. With great instrumental skill and vocal harmonies, they are bound to have you toe-tapping, foot-stomping, and grinning from ear to ear. This concert is sponsored by Perry Family Dental Care.

All shows are at the Bandstand in Memorial Park on Jameson Avenue. In case of rain, events will take place in the Tuttle Library, 45 Main Street. Please check [www.antrimnh.org](http://www.antrimnh.org) or the Antrim and Bennington Facebook page for updates. For more information, please call Antrim Recreation at 603-588-3121 or email [recdirector@antrimnh.gov](mailto:recdirector@antrimnh.gov).

Antrim In The Evening is made possible by generous donations from our sponsors, including Bank of New Hampshire, Perry Family Dental Care, Antrim Parks and Recreation, and many local donors. Our \$30 for 30 Years campaign continues. Donations are welcome. Contact Antrim Recreation, 603-588-3121 or email [recdirector@antrimnh.gov](mailto:recdirector@antrimnh.gov). Or, send a check, payable to Town of Antrim with Antrim In The Evening in the memo line, to Town of Antrim, PO Box 517, Antrim, NH 03440. ❁



## SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE



# Antrim in the Evening

(ALL SHOWS 6 TO 8 P.M.)



July 9 ★ **Wildlife Encounters**

July 16 ★ **Blame It On Sally**—Original songs; rootsy, poetic and playful Americana

July 23 ★ **C2Revue**—Pop, Jazz, Blues, Rock, and the Great American Songbook

July 30 ★ **IvyChum**—Original Folk-Rock trio

August 6 ★ **A Celebration of Peter, Paul and Mary**, with **Decatur Creek**, Kota, Off The Cuff, and Volkert Volkorsz & Scott Heron

August 13 ★ **Great Groove Theory**—Funky Blues; bring your dancing shoes

August 20 ★ **Mr. Bill**—Bluegrass, with Antrim-Bennington Lions BBQ

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## Antrim Community Board is Springing into Spring!

Rose Novotny, Helene Newbold and James Panico

Exciting things are happening in Antrim these days. Have you heard about the Beautifying Main Street project the ACB initiated to help restart the Antrim Garden Club? If you like gardening or just enjoy a nice stroll down Main Street, please read on! On April 19<sup>th</sup> the ACB hosted an organizational meeting for the beautification project with the intent of a revitalized garden club. Nine participants attended in person and another four informed the ACB of their wish to be involved in the future. After introductions, discussion focused on how to add color to Main Street. Individual planters were chosen as the most economical and easiest to maintain. The window boxes on Town Hall will be replanted as well.

The planters are terra cotta-look plastic made from recycled marine plastics. They will be filled with plastic bottles on the bottom, then a layer or two of cardboard will be added for moisture retention, then the potting soil will be put on top of that and finally, four Wave Petunia plants will be planted in each. The flowers will be a mix of colors in each planter for a pleasing view down Main Street. All materials are locally sourced through Edmunds and Tenney Farm. AES and GBS students will be planting them the week before Memorial Day, and they will be distributed along Main Street. Care and watering will be done by Antrim Garden Club members throughout the summer months. The planters will be removed and stored during the winter to be reused in future years. \$35 sponsorships of the planters sold out quickly. The ACB is thrilled to share this beautification project with you, our neighbors and friends.

In addition to the Antrim Garden Club, the Antrim Community Board has introduced a Swap Shop Facebook page that has really taken off. This is a page where residents can exchange items that are still in good shape but that they no longer need, similar to Facebook Marketplace but just for us locals. This is especially helpful for those items not accepted at the Swap Shop. We have seen everything from furniture to windows to garden supplies and zucchini plants. Other information like Volunteer Sign-up & Schedules or Swap Shop Updates will be posted here as well as on the other Antrim pages. The ACB has put a strong focus on developing dynamic channels, both digital and analog, for community communication and growth. Lots more to come. Please keep your eyes and ears peeled for more from the ACB. Happy Spring, Antrim! ❁

*Thank you ...*

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

## Monadnock–Sunapee Greenway Hike

Bob Holmes

Ever wondered what it would be like to hike the Appalachian Trail or the Monadnock–Sunapee Greenway? Well, here's your chance! The Antrim Recreation Department and the Antrim Conservation Commission are co-hosting a section hike of the Monadnock–Sunapee Greenway. We'll be hiking on Saturday, June 28, starting at 9:00. The walk/hike is a two-part activity: the first, a 2.9-mile walk from Route 9 in Nelson to Center Pond in Stoddard; the second, a 3.5-mile hike to the Pitcher Mountain parking lot, with an option for a 0.4-mile hike to the top and the fire tower, and if we're lucky maybe some blueberries. You can do just the walk, or the walk and the hike. Sign-up is required as we'll be taking a bus to the trailhead and have only so many seats available. The 2.9-mile walk is easy, and the only hilly area is downhill. The 3.5-mile hike will involve hiking up over some hilly terrain. More details and registration can be found on the Trails of the Antrim Facebook page. ❁

## New NH Loon Plate

Bob Holmes

House Bill 105 creates a new conservation license plate called "Love New Hampshire Lakes" with a picture of a loon. This new plate celebrates New Hampshire's lake heritage and will generate funding for the cyanobacteria mitigation loan and grant fund. This bill has made it through the House of Representatives and is now being heard by the Senate Transportation Committee and awaiting their recommendation. Thank your local representatives for passing this and contact your senators to make sure that they know you want this passed. This plate will function similarly to the moose plate, with a portion of the cost going to the fund. ❁

*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.



**Dr. Tom Dowling, Veterinarian**  
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## Selectboard Report

John Robertson

**Town Meeting.** WOW! The Town Hall was filled to capacity. There was a lot of voter participation, discussion and education. The best Town Meeting in many years. It's what New Hampshire is all about. Thanks to all who came and participated in a true New Hampshire Town Meeting.

**Election.** Results of voting can be found on the town website and at the town clerk's office. There are several new officers in town offices and the school board. We encourage all to take part in related educational opportunities that are available through the NH Municipal Association. Thanks for becoming part of our town government.

**High Street Bridge.** Construction will finally begin on the new High Street bridge in early July. The Main Street entrance will be closed from early July to December. Access to lower High Street will be from Pleasant Street. This project has been a long time coming. We're all happy to see it happen.

**Town Hall.** Improvements and renovations are ongoing to the Town Hall. Last fall the new roof was done, so now we can go inside. Insulation has been replaced and repairs are being done to the upstairs hall. New lighting will be added as well. This fall the heating/air handling system is scheduled to be replaced with a new, more efficient propane system. These repairs are being done using funds set aside in the town buildings capital reserve fund.

**Gregg Lake Dam.** Plans are progressing for the repairs to the Ben Pratt Dam. Hopefully the project will be underway by early fall as water levels recede. It's a very substantial project. There will be a coffer dam built to hold water from the dam. Completion should be Spring 2026.

**Beach and Boat Launch.** As of this writing, the final touches are being done to the Gregg Lake beach and boat launch. The highway crew is placing the pavers in front of the new bathhouse and will help with the construction of the accessible walkway out the Point to complete the hardscaping for this project. Many thanks go to Celeste Lunetta and the Parks and Recreation Commissioners who were instrumental in getting all the improvements done at the beach.

Again, thanks to all who made town meeting a real NH town meeting and helped make all the improvements happen. You all make Antrim a better place. Have a great summer. ❁

## Antrim Police Department

John Blake, Chief of Police

As we move into the summer season, I'd like to take this opportunity to provide the community with an update on your police department and to share some important safety reminders.

The Antrim Police Department remains committed to providing professional, responsive, and community-oriented policing. Over the past few months, we have continued to work toward enhancing our services and ensuring the safety and well-being of all residents and visitors. We are excited to welcome Officer Filipe Maia and Officer Madison Jones back to the police department, as they recently graduated from the New Hampshire Police Academy and are now beginning their field training. Our department is also in the process of preparing for state accreditation, which will help us continue to meet the highest standards of law enforcement practice.

As always, we value community input and encourage you to reach out with any questions, concerns, or suggestions you may have regarding public safety in Antrim.

### SUMMER SAFETY TIPS

With the warmer weather, more people will be out enjoying everything our community has to offer. Here are a few safety tips to keep in mind:

#### 1. Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety

Please be extra cautious when driving through town, especially in areas where children and families are likely to be walking or biking. Cyclists should wear helmets and use hand signals, and pedestrians should use crosswalks whenever possible.

#### 2. Traffic and Speed

Warmer weather often means more foot traffic and vehicles on our roads. Please observe posted speed limits and remain alert in residential neighborhoods and near parks.

#### 3. Home Security

If you're planning a vacation or will be away from home for an extended period, consider letting a trusted neighbor know or contacting the police department for a vacant property check. Secure all doors and windows and avoid posting travel plans on social media until you've returned.

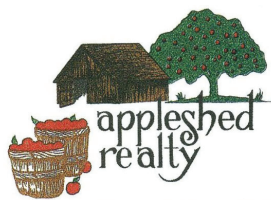
#### 4. Scams and Fraud Prevention

Unfortunately, warmer months tend to see an uptick in phone and internet scams. Be cautious when receiving unsolicited calls or emails and never provide personal information or payment to unknown parties.

#### 5. Water Safety

If you are spending time at local lakes, always supervise children closely, use life jackets as appropriate, and avoid swimming alone.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership in keeping Antrim a safe and welcoming community. Wishing everyone a safe, enjoyable, and relaxing summer! ❁



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## Antrim Elementary School

Beth Gibney, Principal

### Springing into Action: Celebrating a Season of Growth at Antrim Elementary School

As the days grow longer and the flowers bloom, Antrim Elementary School (AES) has been bustling with energy and creativity. This spring, our students have engaged in a variety of enriching activities that highlight their talents, curiosity and commitment to learning.

### NHDI Performance: A Night to Remember

On May 9, AES students took the stage in collaboration with the New Hampshire Dance Institute, delivering a captivating performance that showcased their dedication and enthusiasm for the arts.

### Literacy Night: Exploring Outer Space

March brought a cosmic twist to our annual Literacy Night. Families gathered to enjoy space-themed stories and activities, including crafting coffee filter moons and designing astronaut helmets.

### Bikes for Books: Pedaling Towards Literacy

Our partnership with the Masonic Bikes for Books program has been a resounding success. Students earn tickets for each book they read, with the chance to win a new bike and helmet at the end of the year. The program has motivated our young readers to dive into new adventures through books. The raffle will be held on June 13<sup>th</sup> during field day.

### Artistic Endeavors: Birds of a Feather

In preparation for the upcoming Children and the Arts Festival, students have been busy creating bird-themed artwork. Their colorful and imaginative pieces will be featured in the festival's parade, celebrating this year's theme, "Birds of a Feather."

### Grade-Level Highlights

*Preschool:* Kara from the Harris Center brought in a red fox mount, track molds and a fox skull. She spoke about the eyes, ears and nose of the fox plus pointing out its coat, tail and claws. They did a few fun activities outside and sang songs about the red fox.

*Kindergarten:* Kindergarten has been exploring the numbers 11–20 and learning about wild weather. We learned about hurricanes, tornadoes and blizzards and how to be

prepared if we're ever in an area that experiences one of these weather events.

*First Grade:* Participated in Literacy Night, creating space-themed crafts and enjoying stories about the cosmos.

*Second Grade:* Ms. Revaz's second graders wrapped up their Landform unit by creating amazing dioramas of mountains, valleys, canyons and more. Ms. Del Rossi's second graders wrapped up their biography unit in a fun and creative way. Each student selected a famous person to research and presented their findings using "biography bags" filled with artifacts representing key moments from the person's life.

*Third Grades:* Third Grade kicked off an exciting new science unit by diving into the world of one of spring's most fascinating creatures—salamanders! To wrap it all up, we headed into the forest to explore real salamander habitats, searching under logs and leaves to discover where these secretive creatures live.

*Fourth Grades:* The 4<sup>th</sup> graders are enjoying working on their NH State projects. Students had the choice of a number of different options for their project. We will have commercials, tourism posters and slideshows presenting their chosen region of NH.

As we reflect on the accomplishments of this spring, we are filled with pride for our students and gratitude for our supportive community. We look forward to the continued growth and success of our AES family.



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## Looking Ahead:

### Field Day and Fourth Grade Celebration

Field Day will be upon us in June, and students anxiously await the fun! It promises to be a day filled with games, teamwork and laughter as we come together to celebrate the end of a successful school year.

Our Fourth Grade Promotion Celebration will be held on June 20<sup>th</sup>, when we will celebrate all of their achievements at AES and wish them all our best as they head into their next adventure—middle school.



Thank you Mrs. Edwards for all you do for our school

### Appreciating Our Educators

During Educator Appreciation Week, we took time to recognize and celebrate the dedicated and passionate educators who make Antrim Elementary School such a special place. Our staff goes above and beyond each day to support, teach and inspire our students. The PTO organized wonderful surprises, delicious treats and heartwarming notes to show how much our educators mean to the community. We are grateful for every staff member's commitment to helping students learn and grow. Your impact lasts a lifetime.

### Community Support: Dine In or Dine Out Success

A huge thank you goes out to Rick and Diane's Pizza as well as Hillsboro House of Pizza for partnering with the AES PTO during our recent Dine In or Dine Out fundraiser. Together, these generous local restaurants helped raise over \$1,000 for our school. We are grateful for their continued support and for everyone in our community who participated to make this event a success.

For more updates and information, visit our school website at <https://aes.conval.edu/en-US> or follow us on Facebook. ❀

## New Dates Set for Home & Harvest

SEPTEMBER 12-13

Rick Davis

We had great news at our last Home & Harvest meeting. Now, because of the availability of Tenney Farm, we can have the Home & Harvest Festival on September 12 and 13, with a rain date of September 20. Good news—because one of our biggest events held on Friday night is the Nerf & Turf Competition. It attracts 400 kids up at Shea Field. Having it on September 12 will be warmer and not so wet as later in the month. It makes for a fun event for all our kids, as well as other events that have made Friday night of Home & Harvest famous.

Also, we are looking for more sponsors to continue to support the Home & Harvest Festival, as it is costly to continue making most all of the events FREE to our families. That is a vow I made when starting Home & Harvest back in 2003. As always, I love Home & Harvest and would like to talk to anyone about making this event "Nothing Like It"!

~Rick Davis, 603-464-9915



## Conservation Corner

Peter Beblowski

Once again, things are popping this spring and summer on the Antrim Conservation Commission.

Saturday, June 7, is National Trails Day, sponsored by the American Hiking Society. A short 0.7-mile loop hike along the Meadow Marsh Trail is planned. Meet at the Gregg Lake Beach parking lot at 10 a.m. The hike is planned to be completed before noon. Earlier this season people enjoyed themselves on this short hike and were very enthusiastic.

On June 25, Bob Holmes of the Conservation Commission will be giving a talk on local wildflowers at Fox Forest in Hillsborough at 7 p.m. for the Monadnock Herb Society.

Bob also will be continuing to head the hiking and walking club that was started last year in cooperation with Antrim Recreation. This club has generated a great deal of interest. It is broken into two groups, one for walking and one for hiking. The walks tend to be shorter in length and easier in the exertion required. Hikes are longer and more strenuous. Walks and hikes are scheduled through the Trails of Antrim Facebook page. Hikes are being planned to Bagley Pond, Stoddard Rocks, Crotched Mountain, Mount Sunapee and Skatutakee and Thumb Mountains. Dates and times have not been finalized; please check the Trails of Antrim FB page for more information. At this time, 550 members have signed into the webpage.

A combined walk and hike is planned for a section of the Monadnock-Sunapee Greenway on June 28 with the Stoddard Walkers. Registration for the hike is requested and can be done through the portal at the Trails of Antrim Facebook page. All are welcome. ❀

## ConVal School Board

### Katherine Foecking

I would like to introduce myself as one of your Antrim School Board representatives. I have been a resident of Antrim for the past 5 years and was a resident of Dublin for 8 years prior to that. I was an educator/administrator in the ConVal district from 2009–2022 and I am currently an 8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Weare Middle School. I have three children, 21, 18, and 12, all three of whom have been or are currently students in the ConVal District. My experience in public education has been exceptionally rewarding. I am honored to represent Antrim on the school board. The ConVal School Board website has lots of information including minutes, agendas and announcements of meetings and upcoming events at [schoolboard.conval.edu](http://schoolboard.conval.edu). Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns at [kafoecking@conval.edu](mailto:kafoecking@conval.edu).

### Sarah Edmunds

I've been proud to call Antrim home since May 2020. Currently, I serve as the principal of Fall Mountain Regional High School in Langdon. Before stepping into school administration, I spent several years teaching high school and middle school English and Theater—roles that deepened my commitment to public education.

Working in education is more than a career to me—it's a passion. The students are always the highlight of my day and the reason I continue to do this work with purpose and heart.

ConVal is an exceptional school district, and I am proud to represent Antrim on the school board. I believe in open communication and collaboration, so please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions, concerns or ideas. I'm always happy to listen and work together toward positive solutions. You can reach me anytime at [sedmunds@conval.edu](mailto:sedmunds@conval.edu). ❀

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	<b>LIFE &amp; HEALTH</b> 

## Boat Launch Renovation Talk

Joan Gorga

Antrim is once again being recognized for our small-town pluck in using pandemic relief funds to renovate our town-owned boat launch on Gregg Lake. For this year's annual Lakes Congress on June 5 in Concord, Antrim Recreation Director Celeste Lunetta has been invited to give a presentation and participate in a panel discussion about our boat launch renovation in a session called "Addressing Erosion at Your Boat Launch." The other panelist will be the Executive Director of the Acton–Wakefield Watersheds Alliance, an organization representing nine lakes on the New Hampshire–Maine border. Celeste will be talking about how the Town of Antrim was ready when State Representative Riché Colcombe advised the Antrim Selectboard that the state had pandemic relief funds available for renovating municipally owned boat launches. (Who knew?) The catch was that the application deadline was rapidly approaching, and the project had to be completed within sixteen months. With the grant funds covering 70% of the project up to \$120,000, it was hard not to make an honest effort to fund a much-needed town improvement. Celeste will be talking about how we scrambled to meet the grant application deadline and complete the project on time, and the challenges we have faced. We should take "Hometown Pride" in being recognized by the state for our efforts on this project. ❀

## Antrim Bennington Food Pantry to be Closed on Fifth Saturdays

Pamela Maki-Kallberg

As Antrim Bennington Food Panty progresses, we'll be closed on the fifth Saturday of a month, which happens only four times a year. In a month with five Saturdays, we will be offering double food on the fourth Saturday. The New Hampshire Food Bank provided the following explanation:

*The requirement for food pantries to secure licenses is largely dependent on whether they handle foods that need temperature control. Historically, pantries stored mainly non-perishable items but have expanded their offerings to include refrigerated and frozen foods in response to community demands. This shift necessitated the need for licenses.*

*Therefore, some established pantries are finding themselves needing a license for the first time. The regulation mandating a license for pantries that distribute Temperature Control for Safety (TCS) foods more than four times in a 30-day period is specific to those handling refrigerated, frozen, or fresh cut produce.*

*A pantry can remain operational throughout the month if it restricts the distribution of these higher-risk foods to once weekly, thus remaining exempt. This guideline provides a workable option for pantries considering adjustments to their operating schedule.*

For any inquiries, please send me a direct message at [abcantrim@gmail.com](mailto:abcantrim@gmail.com). Thank you for your understanding. ❀

## Gregg Lake Water Quality Updates

Joan Gorga

**Fireworks Fallout.** People all over the country enjoy shooting off fireworks over water without much thought about the effects of the fallout on the water below. Last summer I was invited to participate in a national study on the effects of fireworks on lake water. Participants in the study included volunteers from “small ponds of the Northeast to Lake Mead, the largest reservoir in the country.” Thirty-one New Hampshire lakes participated, a close second to the state of New York, with 32 participating lakes, showcasing our strong Volunteer Lake Assessment Program organized by Sara Steiner of the NH Department of Environmental Services. In all, 262 volunteers took samples in 226 lakes in 31 states. Fireworks were used on 85% of the sampled lakes.

We were asked to collect samples a day or two before 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks displays, a day or two after and then a week later. We shipped the samples to a lab in Texas, where they were analyzed for perchlorate, a propellant used in nearly all fireworks. In humans, perchlorate interferes with thyroid uptake of iodine; in fish, it appears to disrupt sexual development. Fireworks also contain metals such as lead, barium, copper, lithium, strontium and aluminum, which can be toxic, but this study focused on perchlorate.

Luckily, I correctly guessed that the most likely spots for fireworks at Gregg Lake last summer were off the White Birch Point Beach and near the southwestern corner, and I collected my “before” samples in those locations on July 3. On July 6, I collected the “after” samples, and on July 12, the “week-after” samples. “Before” samples from both spots had perchlorate amounts below the level of detection, 0.05 parts per billion (ppb). Perchlorate in the southwest corner rose to just detectable in the “after” sample and was still slightly above background in the “week-after” sample. Perchlorate in the White Birch Point area showed a dramatic increase in the “after” sample to 0.29 ppb and was also still above the detectable level a week later.

New Hampshire hasn’t set perchlorate limits, but the Massachusetts standard for drinking water is 2 ppb. Although the perchlorate measured off the White Birch Point Beach was only 15% of the Massachusetts standard two

days after the fireworks, elevated levels persisted for at least a week at both sites. Last summer we didn’t have other major fireworks displays on Gregg Lake, but in the future we might want to think about possible effects on both humans and fish, especially if we should have multiple large displays over the lake water.

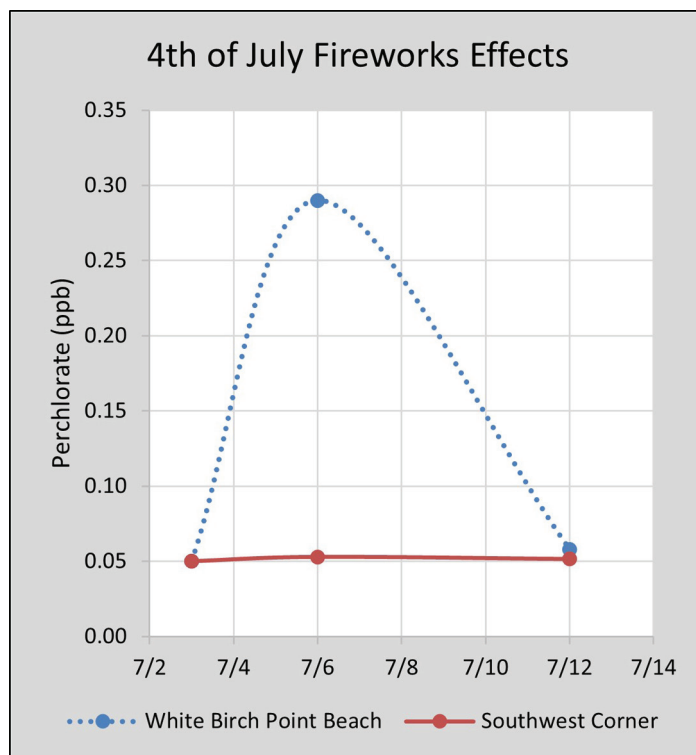


Figure 1. Detection of the fireworks propellant perchlorate after 2024 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks displays in Gregg Lake.

**Regular Water Testing Results.** Thankfully, we didn’t have any public beach closures due to cyanobacteria blooms in 2024, although a few mild blooms were observed in other parts of the lake. Phytoplankton sampling, which is performed by dropping a net with a 55-micron (µm) mesh size to a depth of about 20 feet and drawing it slowly up to the surface to collect microorganisms suspended in the water column, in June 2024 showed mostly diatoms, along with some golden-brown algae and cryptomonads, as ex-

continued on page 10

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pected (Figure 2b). In July, golden-brown algae predominated, again consistent with the normal succession of algal growth over a season. By August, some cyanobacteria were present, but in a much smaller proportion than we saw in 2023 (Figure 2a), when we had several beach closures due to cyanobacteria blooms.

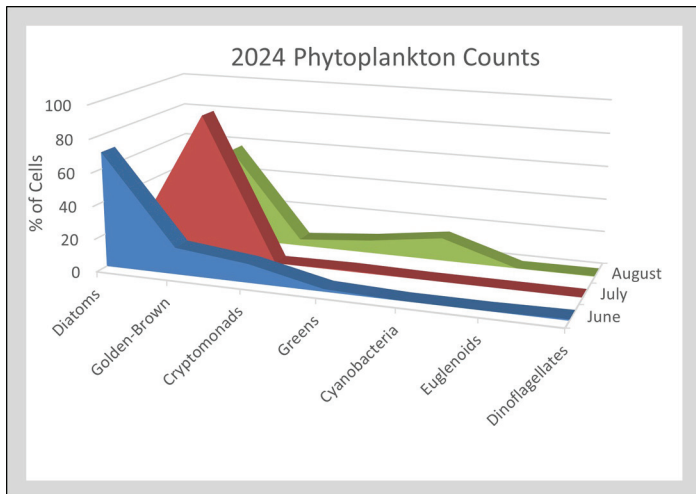
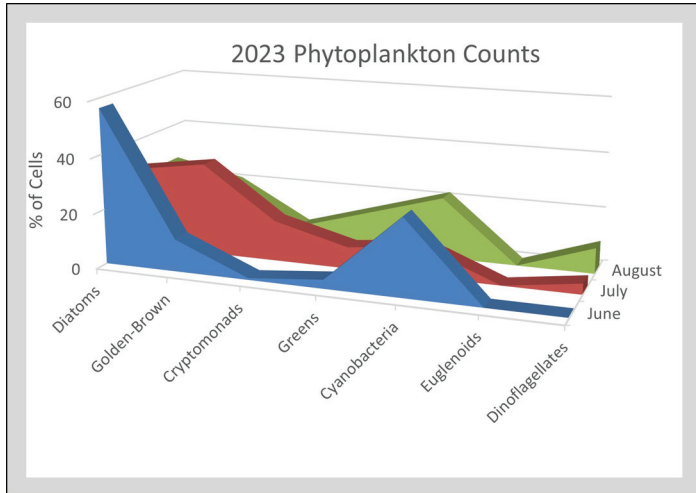


Figure 2. Identification of microorganisms (phytoplankton) suspended in Gregg Lake from the surface to a depth of about 20 feet in June, July and August sampling in (a) 2023 and (b) 2024.

Here’s what the NHDES Volunteer Lake Assessment Program Annual Report for Gregg Lake said:

Great job monitoring water quality in 2024! Lake quality is generally representative of borderline oligotrophic/mesotrophic conditions with nutrient levels and algal growth fluctuating around the thresholds for oligotrophic lakes. Lake phosphorus levels recovered from the high levels measured in 2023 following record summer rainfall, however algal growth was elevated, and data indicated a layer of algae and/or cyanobacteria deep in the water column. Hypolimnetic (*bottom water layer*) phosphorus levels increased as the summer progressed and indicate a potential internal load of phosphorus that could accelerate rates of eutrophication and promote cyanobacteria growth. Keep an eye on the lake for any signs of cyanobacteria blooms or scums and notify NHDES’ Harmful Algal Bloom Program if observed. Tributary phosphorus and turbidity levels increased following a storm event in July, indicating negative impacts of stormwater runoff. Continue watershed management plan implementation efforts to address stormwater runoff, and improve and maintain water quality. The improving conductivity and pH levels are encouraging and indicate the recovery of our lakes from historical acid precipitation. Encourage lakefront property owners to be certified LakeSmart through NH LAKES’ lake-friendly living program. Keep up the great work! ❁

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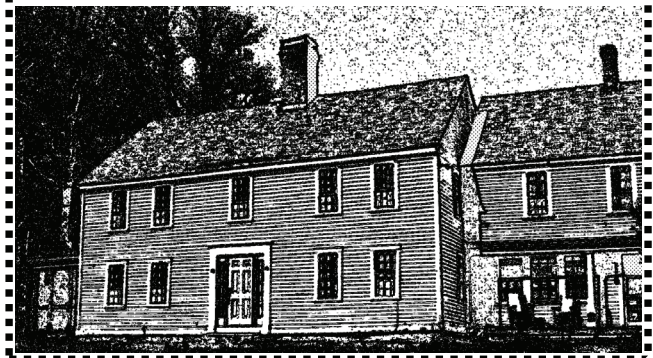
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## Antrim Recreation Department Update

Celeste Lunetta, Director

We'd like to start with a big thank you to the many community members who help keep our youth sports programs going strong. On the heels of a very rewarding basketball season—with championship titles for both our Third and Fourth Grade Boys and Girls teams—we're kicking off a strong spring season with **seven baseball and softball teams!** It's been wonderful to see the spirit and enthusiasm from our young athletes and their families.

There are adult members of the community who continue to volunteer season after season. A heartfelt thank you to: **Erica and Rich Snyder, Chris Bacon, Phil Wheeler, Amanda Perry, Brodie Coughlin, Kathy Decato, Trevor Henion, Samantha Pillsbury, Matt Gilman, Allie Kenney, Ashley Tommila, Alexis Wayland, Ben Cheever, Eli Cademartori, Barry Frosch, Adam Jurewich, Ethan Essex, Tyler McClure, Shawn Durgin, Richard Healey, and Connor Fitzpatrick.** Your time, effort, and dedication to coaching and coordinating teams do not go unnoticed—we are incredibly grateful!

Special thanks also go to **Aaron Hyer Schacht and Joel Schacht**, along with their families, for the hard work and care they put into organizing the **Antrim Youth Fishing Derby** each year.

### RECREATION DEPARTMENT NEWS

We're bidding a fond farewell to our long-time Zumba instructor, Lisa, as she heads south for the next chapter in her family's journey. Thank you, Lisa, for your years of energy and joy! We are happy to welcome our **new Zumba instructor, Serena**, who offers classes on **Saturdays at 9:00 a.m. and Mondays at 5:30 p.m.**

We're also excited to have **Yoga with Jeanine** back in town—join her on **Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.**

More information on these and other adult programs is available on the town website: [www.antrimnh.org](http://www.antrimnh.org).

### UPCOMING PROGRAMS

**Challenger Soccer Camp** returns the first week in August! Coached by professionals from England and Brazil, this camp offers a unique opportunity for players to grow their

skills and gain a worldly perspective on the game. Early-bird pricing is available—check online or visit Town Hall for details.

**Swim Lessons at Gregg Lake** begin **July 11**. We're offering three five-week session options this year: Mondays & Wednesdays, Tuesdays & Thursdays, or (*New!*) Friday afternoons & Saturday mornings. Register at Town Hall or visit [www.antrimnh.org](http://www.antrimnh.org). Programs include:

- Learn to Swim (Preschool through Adults, Levels 1–3)
- Swim Conditioning for older youth looking to improve their swimming and water safety skills

### Fall Youth Soccer Registration

- For grades **3–6**, registration is due **by the end of July**. These teams play in the Merrimack Valley Soccer League, a recreational travel league.
- For ages **4–2<sup>nd</sup> grade**, registration is due **the first week of September**. These children participate in a local, development-focused program.

### NOW HIRING!

Antrim Recreation is currently accepting applications for the following positions. Full job descriptions and application details are posted online and will remain open until filled.


- **Beach Attendant (Seasonal)**
- **Lake Host Inspector (Seasonal)**
- **Recreation Department Assistant (Part-Time, Year-Round)**

### THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

We are deeply thankful for the generous support from individuals and businesses who contribute to youth sports, the fishing derby, and **Antrim in the Evening** summer concerts. These programs thrive because of you!

Special thanks to **Edmunds Ace Hardware, Fitzpatrick Heating and Cooling, Bacon Electric, The Wire Nut**, and many private donors for your support of our spring sports season.

Please keep an eye on our bulletin boards at Town Hall and our website for updates on programming—we hope to see you in the parks soon! ❁



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## Fostering Community Conversations on Racial Justice

Linda Bundy

Following the webinar and book talk with Loretta J. Ross that some of our members attended, we decided to read her book, *Calling In: How to Start Making Change with Those You'd Rather Cancel*. During our February meeting we shared our impressions of Ms. Ross' book talk and discussed thoughts and questions that arose.

"Calling in" is a response that is part of a human rights movement and is analogous to the nonviolent response of the civil rights movement of the 1950s and '60s. It is a moral and philosophical stance. When faced with a comment or situation with which we strongly disagree, we can thoughtfully choose how to respond, rather than immediately replying with an initial reaction that may be strictly emotional and only from our own perspective. We need to stop, think, pause and breathe first. Ms. Ross describes the 5Cs, a spectrum of accountability measures that can help us decide how to respond depending on the situation. **Calling out** is something most of us are all too familiar with, publicly humiliating someone we think is wrong. **Canceling** silences or disposes of viewpoints differing from our own. **Calling on** asks people to do better on their own but does not include becoming directly involved in the process.

**Calling off** can be the best choice when the conversation isn't working at that time, although it may be possible later. **Calling in** is the focus of the book. It is choosing to remain calm, to invite conversation, perhaps saying, "That's an interesting viewpoint, tell me more," or "How did you come to believe that?" You don't have to agree, just give your thoughtful attention without judging. Of course, this is not an easy task. More than just being polite, it is being strategic to move forward and build community connections. It takes practice and time, and the understanding that two things can be true at once.

One of our members shared an experience she had while visiting Puerto Rico recently. For a long time, she has walked by Manuel, who immigrated to Puerto Rico from the Dominican Republic years ago and is now a citizen of the United States. He picks almonds and sells them on the sidewalk and has political views very different from hers. On this day, she paused and struck up a conversation with him. They spoke for over an hour, not in agreement, but listening to each other. She bought some almonds, and he observed that two church bells ring in many towns, and "Maybe I need to listen to both bells." Their interaction built trust and understanding, a goal of calling in.

A recurring theme in our discussions is how we can apply what we're learning in our own lives. Between our April and May meetings, we are going to be on the lookout for opportunities to be open and curious about different viewpoints held by our families, friends and other people we encounter. In May we'll share our experiences and also think about how we can use calling in techniques to ask questions during the listening session with our legislators that will be hosted by the League of Women Voters at the Tuttle Library in May.

Our next book is *Becoming Kin: An Indigenous Call to Unforgetting the Past and Reimagining Our Future* by Patty Krawec. We'll discuss the first four chapters on June 19<sup>th</sup>. We meet on the third Thursday of the month via Zoom. All are welcome, whether or not you've done the reading. For more information contact Linda Bundy at [n\\_bundy@mct-telecom.com](mailto:n_bundy@mct-telecom.com) or 603-588-2254. ❁

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## The Old Parsonage, Part 2

Stephen Burkhardt

*Continued from the March Limrik...*

Although the histories give the construction date of our house as 1826, there is reason to believe that it may have started earlier, as they mention that Robert Read had a store and post office in an addition on the east end of the house. It seems odd for an addition to be built just when the house was new. We know that Robert Read of Litchfield, New Hampshire, owned land on this hill at least ten years prior. His grandfather was William Read of Litchfield, who established Read's Ferry that now carries the more common spelling of Reeds Ferry. Robert Read married Mary Moody of Newburyport in 1820, and it seems likely that they settled here in Antrim not long after. Robert served as postmaster for the town from 1827 to 1833, and it is likely that such an important office would not go to a newcomer. He, along with his brother Henry, was granted by the selectmen on May 18, 1826, "full Liberty and License as Taverners and retailers to retail and sell all spiritous Liquors in such quantities as are usually sold by taverners and retailers in their Store near the new Meeting house..." And the selectmen added, "hereby Obligating themselves to furnish travelers and all other persons all kinds of Entertainment that is usually furnished by taverners and retailers."

Along with the store, the post office and the tavern, Robert also had a share in a business with Imla Wright and Amos Parmenter and incorporated, by grant from the legislature, as the Clinton Company. This was a mill located on the Great Brook, just a half mile down the hill from the new Centre. At that time, there was no construction of any kind in that area. It quickly became an important mill seat, and a village began to form there of other mills and new houses. Unfortunately, the Clinton Company did not prosper, but the village of Clinton is still counted as one of the villages of Antrim today. Yes, it is that collection of houses at the turn to Gregg Lake that you pass on Route 31 as you head north.

By 1835, Robert and Mary Read had sold this house, perhaps because of failing business, but more likely because Mary's father had died in Newburyport late in 1834. I suspect there was an inheritance that would have been more



advantageous to their little family. Charles Gates purchased the property but was required by agreement to allow Read to collect rents and profits until the following March and for Martin Chandler to lease the store there until September 1836. Gates, who was a house builder, oversaw the deconstruction of the old meetinghouse and the construction of the new town house with its parts. Not all the meetinghouse parts were used in the reassembly; therefore, it is possible that the remnants were used in other structures at the Centre, quite possibly even to expand the size of this house. Gates may have continued the store and post office here, but by 1841 he had sold the house to the Reverend John M. Whiton.

The Rev. Whiton, with his wife, Abigail, had lived for many years in the house now known as Bass Farm. In fact, the nucleus of it was built for him when he answered the call to the desk in 1808 to become Antrim's first town minister. But by 1841, no doubt with advancing age and the tiresome trudge up the hill, Whiton would have found the house next to the Centre Church very appealing. The deed from 1841 mentions the store in the sale, so we know it still was part of the house then. Whiton's son, John, Junior, ran the store for a short time. Whiton carried on his daily ministerial duties and received visitors seeking spiritual guidance in his study for several years. Likely, it was during this time that Whiton began writing *History of the Town of Antrim: for the Period of One Century From 1744 to 1844*. This means that Antrim's first published history was written in our house. As the years got on, the old pastor sensed it was time for him to step away from his long service to Antrim. He moved to Bennington to finish out his short time left in the service of that newly formed town. He then sold the house and buildings with the land including on the "south side of the road the barn thereon" to Ambrose and Rachel Story. In that deed of 1855, Whiton refers to the property as "being my late homestead."

The barn that Ambrose and Rachel Story acquired must have burned down at some point, because the Reverend

 — continued on page 20

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Friday & Saturday • 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

### WEEKLY PROGRAMS

Tuesdays • YA Dungeons & Dragons • 5:00–7:45 p.m.  
Wednesdays • Story Time • 3:30–4:30 p.m.  
Thursdays • YA Movie Night • 4:30–7:45 p.m.

**A Fond Farewell.** Thank you to everyone who attended the recent Celebration of Life for Ron and Ann Haggett. Their dedication shaped the services and atmosphere patrons enjoy every day, and their influence will continue to guide our work. They will be missed by us all.

**Summer Reading Kickoff.** Summer Reading begins June 1, and this year's theme, "Color Our World", invites readers of every age to brighten summer reading with books that spark curiosity and imagination. At the Kickoff Party on Saturday, **June 28**, from **11 a.m. to 2 p.m.**, families can gather on the library lawn for hot dogs and refreshing drinks. Thanks to the Children's Literacy Foundation, the celebration's centerpiece will be a live performance by special guest, author and illustrator **Marty Kelley**, from **1 to 2 p.m.**

**Ice Cream Party.** Our End of Summer Reading Ice Cream Party, coming this August, will be the perfect finale to our "Color Our World" reading adventure, featuring cool treats, fun activities and a whole lot of community cheer. Keep an eye out for the exact date and time.

**Event Registration.** Many of our programs fill quickly, so we encourage patrons to reserve their spots as soon as possible. Registering is straightforward: visit our online catalog at <https://antrimnh.biblionix.com>, enter your library card number and password at the top right of the screen, then click on the "Log In" button. Look at the top right corner, click "My Account" and then the "Events and Rooms" button. The "Events" section lists upcoming programs and allows you to reserve a space. Or, if you're looking for a quiet place to study or a spot for your next business meeting or interview, you can reserve a room with the "Rooms" button.

### CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING

**Story Time.** Join us for weekly Story Time with a craft **Wednesdays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.**, where we'll dive into fantastic tales and follow up with a fun, hands-on craft. Whether you're building your own story with markers and glue or bringing a character to life with every color in the crayon box, this is where imagination really heats up! Our monthly **Painting Story Time** crafts will be **June 18 and July 16**. Whether you're painting a scene from the story or adding your own twist, you'll leave with a one-of-a-kind creation.

**Movie Night.** Get your popcorn ready because a fun-filled Children's Movie Night is coming up on **June 24!** We'll be rolling out the big screen right here at the library, and you're invited to settle in for an awesome film, snacks and good times.

Also coming up this summer, with dates and times to be determined:

**Cupcake Decorating.** Join us for an afternoon of cupcake decorating—where your creativity takes the cake! Cupcakes will be provided, and your imagination will be the star.

**Rock Painting.** We invite you to an afternoon where rocks become canvases, and your imagination is the paintbrush. We'll provide the rocks, and you provide the vision!

**Diamond Art.** Get ready to sparkle and shine with Diamond Art! Create dazzling designs with tiny, colorful gems that will turn your art into a shimmering masterpiece. Each piece you create will come to life with a beautiful, sparkly finish that's truly unique.

**Woven Bowls.** Craft something special with Woven Bowls from Paper Plates! You'll transform simple paper plates into beautiful, woven bowls using a variety of colorful materials. Get ready to weave your own work of art!

**Chalk Art.** Add a burst of color to the outdoors with Chalk Art! Join us for a fun-filled time outside where your creativity can run wild with chalk!

### TEEN PROGRAMMING

**Teen Drop-in.** Looking for something fun to do after school or just want to chill? Swing by the library for Teen Drop-In, **Monday–Thursday from 2 p.m.** until closing! Whether you're into movies, video games, 3D printing, or just hanging out, we've got you covered. Just let us know what you want to try, and we'll do our best to make it happen.

**Dungeons and Dragons.** Step into a world of shadows and wonders, where the line between reality and fantasy fades into nothingness. Our Young Adult Dungeons & Dragons campaign awaits. Here, within the walls of the library, you will forge your own destiny—create a character, gather your party, and embark on a quest like no other. No experience is required to enter this realm; simply bring your imagination and a willingness to embrace the unknown. Snacks are provided, though you might find the dark corridors of the game far more filling than any meal. Will you answer the call of adventure? Or will the shadows of the library consume all who dare? The choice is yours. Every **Tuesday, 5:00 to 7:45**.

**Movie Night.** Looking for a fun night with friends? YA Movie Night is the place to be! Come hang out **Thursdays from 4:30 to 7:45 p.m.** at the library for a movie marathon that's sure to bring good vibes, lots of laughs, and a few sur-

prises along the way. We'll have snacks ready to fuel your movie night, and you never know—Jimmy, our friendly library dog, might pop by for a surprise visit!

**Water Balloon Fight.** The ultimate **Teen** showdown is happening on **July 24, 3:00 to 4:30 p.m.** with our Water Balloon Fight! Cool down in the summer heat and bring your best aim—because this isn't just a friendly toss, it's a full-on aquatic battle! Team up with friends, dodge incoming soakers, and see who comes out on top. It's messy, it's wild, and it's all happening right outside the library. Don't forget to wear something you don't mind getting soaked!

### ADULT PROGRAMMING

Thanks to a very generous grant from the Network of the National Library of Medicine, Region 7, we've been able to update our **large print section**, ensuring that patrons with visual impairments have greater access to our extensive collection. In addition, the funds have enabled us to purchase **memory kits**, which will help support cognitive wellness and provide valuable resources for seniors in our community, and materials for our upcoming **Bingo nights**, a fun and engaging activity that fosters social connection and provides a lively, interactive experience for seniors. We are truly grateful for their partnership, which continues to strengthen the library's mission of serving and uplifting our community in meaningful ways.

We offer our sincere thanks to AARP New Hampshire for their generous support in funding our mobile hotspots, which have quickly become a well-loved resource among our patrons, providing them with the ability to stay connected, whether for work, study, or personal use. In a time when access to reliable internet is more essential than ever, AARP's contribution ensures that our community members—especially those without reliable internet access at home—can continue to engage with the resources and services we offer. We are incredibly grateful for their support in helping us bridge the digital divide and connect our patrons to the world.

As we head into an exciting summer filled with events, activities, and opportunities to connect, we are more grateful than ever for the wonderful support from our community. The library continues to be a place where creativity,

learning and fun come together, and we can't wait to welcome you all for a season of adventure, imagination and connection. Whether you're joining us for Summer Reading, exploring new hobbies, or simply enjoying time with family and friends, there's no better place to be than here at the library. Thank you for being a part of what makes this space so special. We look forward to seeing you soon! ❀

## Friends of the JA Tuttle Library

Linda Morehouse

Friends of the Library volunteers work behind the scenes to assist library staff with many operations to enhance the patrons' experiences. From landscaping the front gardens to baking goodies for events or raising money for extra supplies, our volunteers step up in a big way.

For the past several years Friends of the Library has purchased museum and park passes for patrons to check out for free: SEE Science Center, Currier Gallery of Art, and the NH State Parks. These passes give discounted pricing for the entrance fees, so check them out!

The rotating art displays are a project of The Friends. This year we have scheduled displays by Paula Kerouac, Great Brook School students, Antrim Historical Society, and Antrim quilters.

We wish to express our thanks to the supporters of our Election Day Bake Sale in March. The proceeds of that bake sale were donated toward supplies for the library. In particular, the staff purchased a sound system to be used during public presentations, which will enhance the experience for guests in the beautiful reference room of the library.

Keeping the collection organized with only five staff members is a huge task. The Friends have assisted by "reading the shelves." Volunteers take the printed inventory list and match it to the items sitting on the shelves. If there is a discrepancy, the volunteers turn the items over to library staff to rectify the issue. Our staff works so hard to keep everything in order, and all it takes is one misplaced book to send staff and patrons on a search through the stacks. The Friends enjoy doing their small part to help.

Another project of The Friends is to provide newborn welcome bags to our patrons up to one year old. Just ask at the front desk for a newborn gift bag! It's our way of saying "Welcome to the world of books!"

The organization warmly welcomes new members and encourages interested individuals to get involved. Prospective members can complete a membership form at the front desk or attend one of the quarterly meetings to get started. Choose the committee(s) that you would like to join within our organization. A \$10 donation upon enrollment is suggested to support library initiatives. All donations to the Friends of the Tuttle Library, as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, are tax-deductible and greatly appreciated. The Friends of the Library thank the library trustees and library staff for providing such exceptional resources for our town! ❀

### 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](http://www.cvtc-nh.org)

## Historical Society News

Bill Nichols

Spring has sprung and the Society is in full swing. Our first program of the year was in April when we welcomed the Antrim Grange #98, and Arthur Merrill shared the history of the Grange and stone mason Andras Lazar talked about the current work that is going on at the building. After the program, attendees drove to the Grange to see the progress of Andras' work to date. If you were unable to attend the program but would like to see it and the work that has been done, you can view it on the AHS YouTube channel.

In May we welcomed Damian Costello from the North American Institute for Indigenous Theological Studies. Damian traveled from Montpelier, Vermont, to tell us about his research of a murder of a Native American by trapper Jacob Fowler in Vermont back in 1790 over a dispute with his trapline.

Our next program will be Sunday, June 15, when we welcome Molly Grant from the Cordwainer Shop in Canterbury, NH. Molly's father-in-law, Edward Mathews, ran the Homestead Guild, a school to learn farming, crafting and shoemaking back in the 1930s and '40s on Turner Hill Road in Antrim. Like all of our programs, it is free and open to the public.

Recently, we were asked by the Friends of the Tuttle Library if we would be interested in displaying prints of the glass plate negatives that we have been scanning. These photos were taken by Fred Nay, Eugene Woodward and Erwin

Putnam, all from Antrim, beginning in the 1860s through the 1920s. On Saturday, June 7, at 10:30 a.m. at the library, we'll be offering "An Armchair Tour of Old Time Antrim," featuring selected favorites. This display will be available in May and will run until the end of June. Stop by and see what Antrim looked like 150 years ago. While you're there, please visit our museum on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. We've had a major addition to the Goodell Company display thanks to Bill, Dan and Nate Hurlin. Their father, David Hurlin, was the last owner of Goodell Company before it moved to Chicago. Our collection has grown so much that we have recently had to purchase two more glass cases.

In July we will celebrate Independence Day at the Bandstand with coffee, tea, homemade baked goods and patriotic music, and of course the reading of the Declaration of Independence.

Although we don't have a program scheduled for August at this time, our program for September should coincide with Home & Harvest. Planning is still in the early stages, but we hope to do a walk around Loveren Mills where you can learn about the flora and fauna as well as the history of Loveren Mills itself.

We hope you'll consider attending one of our free programs and if you do, please bring a friend or two.

As always, if you have questions or need help with research about Antrim, please stop in or send us an email at [antrimhistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:antrimhistoricalsociety@gmail.com). We're glad to help. ❀

### ONGOING COMMUNITY EVENTS

#### MONDAYS

SAIL (Stay Active & Independent for Life) exercise class Town Hall 11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Zumba at Town Gym, 5:30–6:30 p.m.

YA Dungeons & Dragons, Tuttle Library 5:00–7:45 p.m.

Yoga with Jeanine, Town Hall 6:00 p.m.

#### WEDNESDAYS

SAIL exercise class Town Hall 11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Children's Story Time with a craft, Tuttle Library 3:30–4:30 p.m.

#### THURSDAYS

YA Movie Night, Tuttle Library 4:30–7:45 p.m.

#### FRIDAYS

SAIL exercise class Town Hall 11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

#### SATURDAYS

Zumba at Town Gym, 9:00 a.m.

Antrim-Bennington Food Pantry, Antrim Baptist Church, 10 a.m.–noon, except 5th Saturday of the month



Revival Shop, Presbyterian Church, open 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

# Community Calendar




## JUNE 2025

- 3 **Dads' Campfire** • The Grapevine • 7:00 p.m.
- 7 **Conservation Commission Meadow Marsh Trail hike** • 10:00 a.m.
- 7 **Historical Society program: An Armchair Tour of Old Time Antrim** • Tuttle Library • 10:30 a.m.
- 9 **3rd Annual Avenue A Blindfolded Boat Race** • Norway Pond, Hancock • 6:15 p.m. (rain date June 10)
- 10-11 **NHGives 24 hour Online Giving: benefit Avenue A Teen & Community Center** • 5 p.m.–5 p.m.
- 15 **Historical Society program: Molly Grant on Cordwaining** • Presbyterian Church • 3:00 p.m.
- 18 **Senior Luncheon provided by Dollar Shy Farm** • Presbyterian Church • 12:00 p.m.
- 18 **Moms' Campfire** • The Grapevine • 6:30 p.m.
- 19 **Eclectic Book Club** • *The Last Report on the Miracles at Little No* by Louise Erdrick • time & location TBA
- 19 **Community Supper sponsored by the Presbyterian Church** • Presbyterian Church • 5:30 p.m.
- 19 **Fostering Community Conversations on Racial Justice** • Zoom meeting
- 24 **Children's Movie Night** • Tuttle Library
- 25 **Local Wildflower talk with Bob Holmes** • Fox Forest, Hillsborough • 7:00 p.m.
- 28 **Trails of Antrim Monadnock-Sunapee Greenway walk/hike**
- 28 **Summer Reading Program Kickoff Party** • Tuttle Library • 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

## JULY 2025

- 1 **Dads' Campfire** • The Grapevine • 7:00 p.m.
- 4 **Historical Society Reading the Declaration of Independence** • music & snacks • Bandstand • 8:00 a.m.
- 9 **Antrim in the Evening: Wild Encounters** • Memorial Park • 6:00 p.m.
- 16 **Senior Luncheon provided by Dollar Shy Farm** • Presbyterian Church • 12:00 p.m.
- 16 **Antrim in the Evening: Blame it on Sally** rootsy, poetic playfull Americana • Memorial Park • 6:00 p.m. 
- 16 **Moms' Campfire** • The Grapevine • 6:30 p.m.
- 17 **Eclectic Book Club** • book, time and location TBA
- 23 **Antrim in the Evening: C2Revue** Pop, Jazz, Blues, Rock • Memorial Park • 6:00 p.m. 
- 24 **Teen Water Balloon Fight** • Tuttle Library • 3:00–4:30 p.m.
- 30 **Antrim Grange 120 Club Raffle ticket sales end**
- 30 **Antrim in the Evening: IvyChum** Folk-rock • Memorial Park • 6:00 p.m. 
- 31 **Fall Youth Soccer Antrim Recreation** • registration for grades 3–6 ends

## AUGUST 2025

- 5 **Dads' Campfire** • The Grapevine • 7:00 p.m.
- 6 **Antrim in the Evening: Celebration of Peter, Paul and Mary** • Memorial Park • 6:00 p.m. 
- 13 **Antrim in the Evening: Great Groove Theory** Funky blues • Memorial Park • 6:00 p.m. 
- 20 **Senior Luncheon provided by Dollar Shy Farm** • Presbyterian Church • 12:00 p.m.
- 20 **Antrim in the Evening: Mr. Bill** Bluegrass with AB Lions BBQ • Memorial Park • 6:00 p.m. 
- 20 **Moms' Campfire** • The Grapevine • 6:30 p.m.
- 21 **Eclectic Book Club** • book, time and location TBA
- 23 **Avenue A Grand Opening** • The Grapevine, Aiken Street • 3:00–6:00 p.m.
- 30 **Antrim Grange Penny Sale** • time and location TBA

## SEPTEMBER 2025

- 12-13 **Home & Harvest Festival "Nothing Like It"**

# First Presbyterian Church

Jan Howe, Pastor

At the church we are in the season of Easter, which began on Easter Sunday and continues for fifty days until the arrival of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost, which is June 8<sup>th</sup> this year. It is celebrated on the final day of the Easter season. Pentecost commemorates the arrival of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles. It is often represented by a dove and red flames to symbolize its fiery descent. To represent the Holy Spirit, we encourage people to wear red, and our altar clothes are red.

This summer's Bible Study led by Andi Spear will focus on the book *What Happens Next: A Traveler's Guide Through the End of This Age* by Max Lucado. Andi will be giving a presentation each week, and we will be discussing and using the study guide. Anyone who wants to participate should purchase the study guide: *What Happens Next Bible Study Guide plus Streaming Video: A Traveler's Guide through the End of This Age*. This study will continue throughout the summer on Sundays at 11:45. Plan to join us!

On the third Thursday of June (June 19<sup>th</sup>) the church will be hosting the Community Supper. We will be serving spiral ham, beans, coleslaw and various handheld desserts. We would love some help with donations of desserts. If you can make a dessert, please leave a message at the church (603-588-2209). We are thankful to Avenue A T.A.C.O. group for being willing to help us with the set-up, serving and clean-up for the dinner. We would not be able to be hosting without their help!

The monthly Senior Lunch now has an average attendance of forty-five people. Not only are we enjoying the delicious meal provided by Dollar Shy Farm, but we are also enjoying the fellowship and raffles. These are held on the third Wednesday of the month at the church at 12 noon. People do need to sign up by the Tuesday before and give their meal choice. It is a wonderful time to meet new people or renew a friendship. If you want to be added to the e-mail list, please contact [pastorantrimfpc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorantrimfpc@gmail.com).

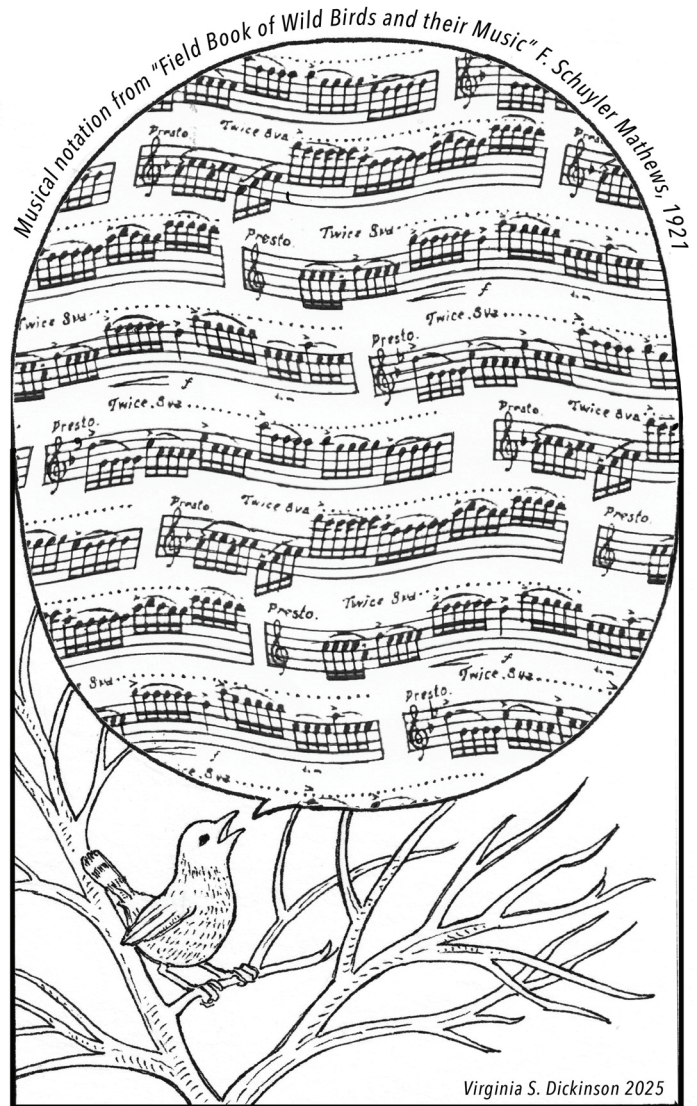
The church has been working on the building, including resetting the front steps, adding a new railing and new cement walkways, and continuing to work on the water issue for the Revival Shop entry area, a leak in the roof by the side entry, the failing stained-glass windows, regrading of the parking lot and other smaller projects.

As always, we welcome anyone to stop in and see what we are all about on Sundays at 10:30 a.m., as well as special holiday worship services. We love visitors and always have some goodies to go with coffee and tea following worship.

Hope to see you. ❀

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

Are you willing to help it arrive in your mailbox each quarter? Please contact Joan Gorga at [editor@antrimlimrik.org](mailto:editor@antrimlimrik.org).



## Song of the Sea

Bruce McGuffin

In the back of the basement on a shelf there sits  
a big red box full of small boat bits.

There are cleats, spare sheets, plugs for small drain  
holes,

a pair of oarlocks with too-long tholes.

I have two spare pintles for a rudder I lost  
when the wind blew hard and the boat was tossed.

I get lots of practice at the boat-builders arts  
but I end each job with a few spare parts.

I've left off so many that she may not float  
but I've got a good start on a brand new boat.

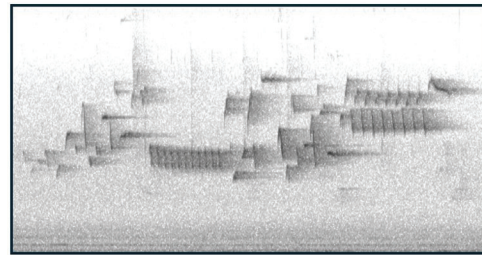
## Antrim's Best Set of Pipes

George Caughey

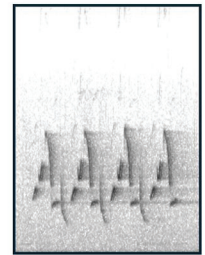
What birds in our town sing the best song, or sing their song the best? People argue all the time about this—well, not *all* the time, but a lot. My vote goes to Winter Wrens, which put the vocal output of glam species like bluebirds to shame. Are any second-best songsters worth mentioning? Yes: Song Sparrows, Indigo Buntings and Wood Thrushes come to mind. But Winter Wrens reach the number one spot by perching atop several categories. First, their territorial songs, sung by males, are exceptionally loud, which is the more remarkable because the singers are exceptionally small, even for wrens. Adult Winter Wrens—inconspicuous brownish balls of fluff—weigh in at 8 to 12 grams, which is less than two U.S. quarters, and just a bit more than your average hummingbird. By one estimate, according to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, the Winter Wren is ten times louder than a rooster, normalized for weight. Second, the song is unusually long, lasting 5–10 seconds, delivered with seemingly improvised variations. It never seems overly repetitive or boring—and birds in different locations can develop local dialects. Third, the songs are remarkable for the sheer number of notes in the performance, as many as 16 per second. This imparts a sense of excited anxiety to the song. The related Pacific Wren (once regarded as the same species) can deliver notes at twice that rate, and yet potential mates and competitors extract meaning from this torrent of notes in a way that our ears do not. However, using a tool like Merlin on a smartphone, humans can see individual notes by recording the song, slowing it down, and visualizing it on a spectrogram of audio frequency vs. time (see example recorded in Antrim's woods last year). Some parts of the song are above the range of human hearing, especially mine. Fourth, the songs are not merely loud, long, and full of notes, but beautiful, featuring operatic coloratura, with multi-octave leaps, syncopations, overtones, and an expansive range of frequencies. Finally, the songs are enhanced by being performed in peaceful sylvan settings, with little sonic competition. Winter Wrens aren't common backyard or birdfeeder species. They seek out mature forests, with hemlocks and other conifers, especially those with snags and wind-felled trees. When you see these birds—although you hear them more often than see them—they often look and behave like mice hopping among crevices of toppled tree roots.

What else do we know about these champion vocalists? Despite being called Winter Wrens, they mostly excuse themselves from our winters, migrating to warmer climes in mid-Atlantic and southeastern states for more reliable sources of food. While singing in woods in the spring, males often build several nests, one of which may be chosen to be spiffed up and to receive eggs by a female partner, if she approves of the site, workmanship, singer and song. They eat mainly insects and spiders. The Latin binomial of the Winter Wren is *Troglodytes hiemalis*, troglodytes being cave-dwellers. This is apt, because Winter Wrens on cold

nights roost in dark holes or old nests. Compared to another bird increasingly seen in Antrim, the Carolina Wren, Winter Wrens differ in several ways. Carolina Wrens are short-distance migrants and typically over-winter where they breed and reside. Older range maps do not include Antrim or any part of New Hampshire as their territory. This appears to be changing, as I've recorded Carolina Wrens several times through Antrim's fall, winter and spring. Perhaps warming trends allow them to survive in regions once excluded by harsh winters, since they don't migrate long distances. Carolina Wrens, like Winter Wrens, sing loudly, but their songs are shorter, less frenetic and more repetitive. But after a dozen or more repetitions, a male Carolina Wren may switch to a new song, of which he may have dozens in his repertoire. The song you hear from a bird may be different the next time you hear it, making you think it's a different bird. For comparison, in the accompanying figure, I include a spectrogram from a Carolina Wren singing in Antrim Center. A third wren encountered in Antrim is the House Wren. This wren has sullied its reputation among birders due to a habit of destroying nests and eggs of other birds, including bluebirds, but it's only doing what it's programmed to do to achieve and maintain an evolutionary advantage, lest we are tempted to be judgmental. Its song is distinct from that of other wrens, and, unlike Winter Wrens, House Wrens are comfortable nesting near humans.



Winter Wren



Carolina Wren

I recorded these spectrograms of wren songs in Antrim on an iPhone using the Merlin app. The horizontal axis is time (the Winter Wren song lasts about 7 seconds) and the vertical axis is audio frequency, with low-pitched notes toward the bottom and high notes toward the top. Darker is louder. To hear examples of songs from these and other birds visit <https://www.allaboutbirds.org>. ❁

## Sharing the Caring...



**MONADNOCK FAMILY SERVICES**

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)

Financial Assistance is available for those who qualify.



Cochrane mentions in his later history that Ambrose Story's barn burned, and a new one was built across the road in 1867. Rachel passed away in 1868, and Ambrose remarried Almira in 1869. Upon his death in 1875, Almira moved to Amherst, as neither of Ambrose's marriages produced children. The house became a parsonage again, or a manse in Presbyterian parlance, when the Reverend Warren Cochrane purchased the property in 1876.

Cochrane had begun his pastorate of the Centre church in 1868, but it is unclear where he resided prior to the purchase of this house. No doubt, he, too, sought to live as close as convenient to the now aging brick church. By 1880, he published his *History of the Town of Antrim, New Hampshire*, and we can gather that it, too, was written while he lived here. And that makes two published histories of the town now written in this very house. His history was in celebration of Antrim achieving a true centennial mark in 1877, one hundred years from its official charter. There was a tremendous party thrown by the town on the "old common" in front of the brick church. Photographers recorded the events in stereoscopic views. There is a view of this house with the Reverend Cochrane and his wife in the yard. There are views of attendees at food tents that show the east gable end of this house in the background. It must have been a real affair. But difficult times were on the horizon for Antrim, and specifically, Antrim Centre.

Even though Antrim Centre had always been the geographic center of the town, as well as the municipal and ecclesiastical center, it accounted for only a small portion of the population. The Rev. Whiton in his account even quipped that it could hardly be called a village. There were only a few houses, the church, the town house and a blacksmith shop. The other villages had robust populations, and the people of the South Village especially wanted their church and their town house to be nearer to them, not up the hill four miles. Plans were made and construction started for a new Presbyterian church and town hall where we see them today. Those buildings made the ones in the Centre obsolete. The Grange bought the old town hall, but the church was forced to be demolished. The brick church was a magnificent structure, but in those days, people were not mindful of how important local architecture can be to future generations. A building served a useful purpose, otherwise there was no reason to keep it. The argument over the removal of that grand structure caused great acrimony in Antrim for years. Perhaps, it can be called Antrim's original sin. And with that, Antrim Centre lost its importance, and it retired from its public life.

After the church came down, Cochrane sold his home here in 1897, and the parsonage moved downtown closer to the new church. This house then entered a quiet new century, and things stayed that way for decades. There were

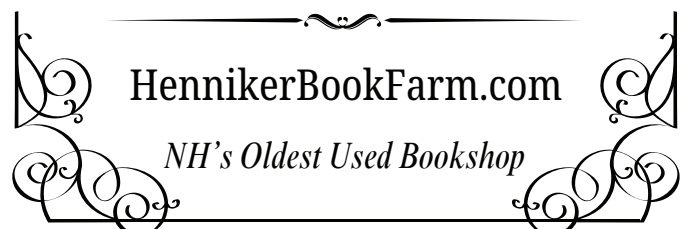
a few owners whose stories are unknown until Ralph G. Hurlin purchased the house and land in 1937. It is unclear whether he ever resided here. There were tenants at various times, and it is possible that the house had very few modern updates, such as indoor plumbing and electricity, for many years. In 1945, Hurlin sold a portion of the property, deeding the house and a smaller parcel of land to a new buyer. Later he would deed the remainder of the property to the Town of Antrim in conservancy. But the house sold again in 1963 to a couple from Connecticut, and Dennis and I credit them with saving the house from complete dereliction.

This was a seminal moment for the Old Parsonage. Martin and Josephine Delany wanted to not only restore the house to its original beauty but also preserve it for future generations. They hired the pre-eminent antique house restorer, who oversaw important projects such as the reconstruction of the Wayside Inn in Sudbury, Massachusetts, after a disastrous fire and the construction at Strawberry Banke in Portsmouth. And they did not have to look far to find him. Roy Baker and his son, Phil, had lived just up the road in the white Cape house that sits in the wedge formed by Old Pound Road and Route 31. Unfortunately, Roy had passed away just a couple of years before, but Phil continued his work. And under Baker's direction, the old house received a careful and complete restoration. His approach was to save what could be saved, and to replace in the old manner what could not be saved. The evidence of this com-



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prehensive work is apparent today and explains why the house was so intact when we bought it. They kept the stenciled decoration which had adorned the old plastered walls, since they were painted there by Moses Eaton, Jr., in the 1820s. It was during that time, we believe, the house had plumbing installed. We have since spoken to the Delany's son—a 70-plus-year-old man—who told us his mother had the bathrooms put in the house in the 1960s. He assured us how much his mother loved this old house. He said “she worked assiduously” on it. As much as she loved this house, apparently her husband hated cold weather. Eventually, the Delanys did sell.

An antique dealer and his wife were the next owners, and that seems a logical progression for a newly restored old home. Moreover, this was during the period that preceded the fever pitch celebration of the bicentennial of the country. Bill and Phebe Lewan even painted the house in red, white and blue colors. They ran their antique shop in the garage that was built on the foundation of the old barn across the road. We have long-time associates from our antiques business who knew the Lewans and even visited their shop in the 1970s. The Lewans were likely very proud of their antique home. We found a reference in our online research, that Phebe gave a tour of the house to the Antrim Historical Society to show off the original stencil work done by Moses Eaton, Jr. Life takes its turns, however, and by 1978, this house was for sale again.

It was during this time that a husband-and-wife team, Edward and Margaret Fabian, were traveling across New England recording existing original stencil work. Stenciling was a way of adding painted decorative patterns to plain walls. Wallpapers were frightfully expensive and had to be imported from France until the 1840s. Moses Eaton, Junior, was the most prolific artist of this folk form, and though he lived in Hancock he traveled widely to decorate homes. The Fabians had learned there were at least two houses in Antrim that had examples of Eaton's stencil work. They visited this home in 1978 as it was put up for sale and took Polaroid photographs of all samples that were still visible and recorded their locations in the house. The Fabians kept files on all the properties they recorded, and the file specific to our house could be found in the archives of New Hampshire Historical Society in Concord. The file was titled “Lewan House, Antrim, N.H.” After all, it had borne witness to so much of Antrim's history, as much as it had participated in it.

*To be continued...*

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## Where in Antrim?

Marshall Gale, Shelly Hall, Matthew Hall, George Davison, Jan Paige, Thomas Hall and Thomas Beaumont all correctly identified the location of the photo in the March issue as the dry hydrant on Old Pound Road near Craig Road and Reed Carr Road. A few responders had to be encouraged to look a little closer, although there was the added challenge of some rather deep snow. Marshall Gale was the winner of the \$25 gift certificate to Alberto's.

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



## Gnomes

Bruce McGuffin

My neighbor's flower garden grows  
 With resin gnomes lined up in rows.  
 My garden's bare to show me in  
 My true light: antignomian.

## Antrim Grange

Beth Merrill

In the early spring, members and guests of Antrim Grange enjoyed an interesting and informative program on a local bird-banding project, presented by Dan Wenny and Wendy Gibbons. The Grange sponsored the annual Meet the Candidates Night with a record number of candidates appearing before a crowd of responsible voters doing their due diligence in preparation for the Town Meeting election. Arthur Merrill attended the Grange Bowling Tournament in Manchester and earned second place in his category. He also prepared and presented, aided by Andras Lazar, “Antrim Grange: Past, Present, and Future” to a capacity crowd at the April Antrim Historical Society meeting followed by a caravan of audience members to the Grange Hall for a first-hand tour of the exterior work completed thus far on the seven-year-old Grange Hall Rehabilitation project. Our two-mile section of sponsored highway from the Grange Hall to Route 9 was cleaned up in May and we will be back at it in the fall!

We are conducting our third annual 120 Club raffle whereby purchasers of each \$20 ticket will have multiple chances to win a weekly \$20 prize, and after 20 weeks three grand prize winners will be drawn to win \$300, \$200, and \$100 cash prizes. Ticket sales will be ongoing through July 30<sup>th</sup>, which is the final weekly drawing. Contact any Grange member or see contact info below if you would like to financially support the Antrim Grange Hall Rehabilitation project by becoming a 120 Club “member.”

Currently, work continues on the retaining wall behind the Grange Hall (sometimes referred to as the Great Wall of Antrim) as well as shoring up the support posts underneath the hall. It is our goal to complete the retaining wall this year so that the focus can return to building/repairing the hall foundation. The need for funds to keep this work going is incessant and we appreciate all our donors. Anyone who would like to support these efforts with a tax-deductible contribution can send their check to the NH Grange Foundation, c/o Andrew Savage, Treasurer, 837 Bennett Way, Newmarket, NH 03857. Be sure to make a notation that it is for the Antrim Grange Hall account.

Keep an eye out for details on an open house for the public to visit the Grange Hall, learn more about this important historic building, see the work that has been done and hear the plans to complete the project.

Recipients at our annual Community Awards Night were announced as follows: Educator—Cassie Anderson; Community Citizens of the Year—Tim and Linda Morehouse; and Distinctive Service—Donna Hanson. Grange member Beth Merrill was presented with her Gold Sheaf certificate, which designates a member that has achieved fifty continuous years of membership, and David Corliss was recognized as a forty-five-year member. Winners of the cheesecake baking contest were announced during this event, and the

weekly winner of our 120 Club raffle was drawn, as well.

Our annual Penny Sale will take place on August 30<sup>th</sup>, the Saturday of Labor Day weekend. The Grange is grateful to receive donations of gift cards/certificates and new or lightly used items to add to the prize tables. We appreciate our regular “customers” who faithfully attend this fundraiser and especially love when this fun event is discovered and enjoyed by first-timers!

If you would like info on the Grange or have questions about membership, please contact Grange Secretary Beth Merrill at [bmerrill@nhgrange.org](mailto:bmerrill@nhgrange.org) or 603-547-7211. ❁



The Antrim Marketplace Beer Cave. Photo by Joan Gorga

When you patronize a *Limrik* advertiser, please remember to say, “I saw your ad in *The Limrik!*”

## The Revival Shop

Carole Kaye

Have you checked out the Revival Shop? If you have, most likely you have found some great deals and are a returning customer. Some folks come in every Saturday, when we are open from 10–2.

Revival is a thrift shop located in the lower level of the Presbyterian Church on Main Street in Antrim. It has been in operation since 1997. Originally it was created following a fire in town to provide clothing to those in need. We still provide good quality clothing at affordable prices. Each week we put out new merchandise and eventually rotate items to half price racks, then to 50-cent racks, then to free racks.

Revival is operated entirely by dedicated volunteers. We screen the donations for quality and attach low prices. If it is a quality item with a minor flaw, we indicate that on the tag and price it accordingly.

Here is a guideline for acceptable donations:

- linens
- clothing
- shoes, boots, handbags, belts, scarves, hats and gloves
- jewelry—always a big hit!
- adult and children’s books that are clean and not yellowed or mildewed
- puzzles that are complete

To help our volunteers, please donate clothes and linens that:

- are clean and folded
- have no rips or tears
- have the size labels attached—size labels and size of bedding are especially helpful

We also accept quality decor, antiques and collectibles that are in good shape and not too large. We only have space on one table, so we are recommending that larger items go to the Swap Shop.

And don’t forget to check out our fun table! We also have a free table.

All proceeds benefit the church and the local community. We continue to help with special requests for those in need



and offer low prices for our shoppers, who benefit from the fun of shopping and scoring great stuff. Our volunteers are happy to assist and support the shoppers and the local community, and to see merchandise getting a second life instead of going to a landfill. It is a win-win all around.

All of us appreciate the generous donations that we receive. So, if you are cleaning out your home, please consider donating your unwanted items to the Revival Shop. Items can be dropped off during our open hours on Saturday from 10–2. Items can also be left in weather-sealed containers outside our door on other days.

Thank you all for your outstanding support and the wonderful donations to help us support our community. Make it a point to visit our shop to enjoy the thrill of thrifting. Look for the new Revival Shop post on Facebook. ❀



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## The Knowledge You Can Find in a Library, The End

Susan Ellsworth

*Continued from the March Limrik, where Sterling was about to begin her educational journey on a far-off planet...*

“I still have so many questions about how knowledge was given to some: Why knowledge in certain areas to advance our civilization, but not others? What are all the pictures of half-animal, half-man representing? Where are the Teachers that came to Earth in the past? Why did the floods wash the Earth clean of people except Noah, his family and the animals? Why can some people truly predict the future? Are there Teachers living among us all the time? Why did you leave the Earth after helping past civilizations and not return?”

“I will answer you now,” the Teacher said. “Information has always been available in the universe, but only certain people are aware of how to get it. They quiet their minds and see and feel the information. Some of these people naturally get this information and others are updated by the Teachers to receive the abilities. Some even read it in past writing left by humans taught by Teachers. It is unfortunate that information given to humans by different Teachers to help advance populations all over the Earth was often not shared. Instead, it was only used and kept by one population. Sharing and working together as one would have advanced and strengthened all. Mankind still could learn this someday.

“The pictures of animal-humans represent gifts Teachers have brought to Earth to provide food for humans. The pictures are drawings people make showing their appreciation. They add the head of the creature the Teacher gave them to the body of the Teacher. That’s why they are sacred and adored animals. They save populations from famine. There are drawings on the ground only recognized from above of animals, insects, fish and birds that Teachers have brought to populate the Earth.

“The Earth is an experimental project with many different planets’ input. God has sent Teachers to guide the human population and care for its success to a certain extent. When the inhabitants fail God’s expectations, things are cleared and started over with more advanced inhabitants until there is homeostasis among all. Teachers can only do so much. Mankind will need to learn from information given, or learn from its mistakes, before it’s too late. Sometimes we did take some humans off the planet to save them to start over with a few more advancements once the planet was livable again, like after the floods. It seems that time is coming again due to another pandemic caused by a country’s leader who wants to be in charge and can’t be. People are divided and can’t live together in peace anymore. There are too many weapons that could destroy the Earth, and God is mad and will not let that happen, so it’s near a time when things will start over again if humans don’t stop this hate for their fellow man, this greed to be rich and in charge. They need to decide to live together in peace or choose their fate.



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It's all in humanity's hands for now.

"I think our trip will have to wait. Things are happening back on Earth that may cause bad things to happen that we can't stop. We need to head back there now! We can explore where other Teachers are on Earth before heading to our underwater living station.

"Let's go back to Earth and see what places other Teachers are using to prepare their chosen people. I want you to meet different Teachers from other planets to understand their languages and learn about their ideas and ways for the new generation that will be starting if things don't change.

"Scott, head back to Earth by way of the North Pole so we can see the ice caves where one set of new generationers are preparing for the future, please."

Sterling was still so in awe of all the stars, planets and colors in the universe as they headed back to Earth. The Teacher told her that some Helpers were living on Earth with humans but were not allowed to stop things from happening, although they could give input to Teachers as they came close to Earth in ships to watch things. The Teachers reported back to God. The Teacher told her there were different locations on Earth where Teachers from other planets were in underground living stations waiting for possible new generations to start. Some were even living in the pyramids and past underground tunnels deep in the ground that were safe from what possibly would happen.

When they reached the North Pole their ship flew right into an opening in a snow-covered ice cave without hesitation. The Teacher told her that Teachers have been using it for centuries to observe events happening on Earth. There was a Helper's living station there for them to observe and report back to Teachers. Sometimes Teachers flew in by ship to drop off supplies for Helpers to put out into the world.

When their ship came closer to what looked like a docking station, a group of people appeared to greet them, knowing they were coming by their ability to know things before they happened. The Teacher told Sterling she would have that capability after this meeting. She would need it very soon. The other Teacher just looked at Sterling and they communicated without words. The other chosen one from the group did the same. They knew if things didn't change within days the end was near for the way things were, and

the new generation would start to live in their new stations until things were safe for them to live on Earth.

They all went into the living station. It was set up differently than the underwater station Sterling would live in. There was lots of light and plants growing even though they were under the ice, miles down. She was told there were ice domes that reached the surface with technology that would allow plants to grow like they were out in the open warm areas above. The birds and insects all seemed to be behaving normally. There were also some living quarters for people to live as one big family. People liked this new concept. There were areas for animals to live as well as areas for fish and birds to thrive. After a few tours and meetings about the future, it was time to be on their way.

With a thought they were back on their ship where Scott was waiting. Their next destination was Peru. This time they headed for an extinct volcano called the Huascarán Volcano. It was a living station for helpers to observe human populations without anyone suspecting. Here, too, supplies were brought in by ships. The Teachers could check in with Helpers and pass on knowledge that was needed to advance human populations. When their ship got closer Sterling could not believe they were going to land inside the mouth of this huge volcano. It was scary but she trusted the Teacher would never let harm come to her.

As they settled onto a landing pad a few people greeted them—a Teacher and two chosen ones. Sterling was told this population would be larger than the others, because they would be broken into different locations when the time came to start over. There were two living stations side by side, each with people who spoke different languages and looked different. They all got along and worked as one population. This was the new-generation way—behavior God expected of this new generation. Again, there were many animals and creatures that were thriving in this new temporary home. Sterling asked many questions and learned a lot of information she would need. She made new connections with Teachers from all over the world and other chosen ones as well. It was exciting to learn all this new information, but deep-down Sterling was praying that the current people of the Earth would wake up and stop this hate, greed, and not caring about their fellow

 — continued on page 26

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I practice hard, I really do  
I'd love to play my horn for you.  
And all the problems that I've had  
Would go away, I'd play like mad,  
I'd play in-tune, I'd play at speed  
If only I had one good reed.



Second graders at AES present biography projects on Amelia Earhart and Fred Rogers.

## The Knowledge You Can Find in a Library continued from page 25

man. Chances are their time will end due to their trying to destroy each other to be number one. Sterling had tears in her eyes, and the Teacher saw it. She felt love as he looked deep down into her soul. He was a being sent by God, so she knew he cared and felt her pain. He took her hand, and they were back on their ship with Scott.

Sterling felt comforted by his touch like she had never felt before. After that she felt different. She felt the history of man and events on Earth through past civilizations. How and why things needed to start over. She now had an understanding of the past, present and future, and felt a calm fall over her.

Scott headed the ship this time towards their underwater home station. As they flew above the water to their area of descent, Sterling said a prayer that mankind would repent all over the world before it was too late. It could all be over with one push of a button. God would not let them destroy the Earth, but He would destroy this cohort, making room for the next new generation for the experiment to start again. As their ship descended into the water Sterling looked at the beautiful sunset hoping tomorrow there still would be a sunrise.

The answer lies within us all. Can we learn to live in peace, or do we want to destroy ourselves because of hate and greed? The future is in our hands. Will we have a sunrise? ❁



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## A–B Lions Club

Linda Morehouse

Why join the Antrim–Bennington Lions Club? Community service, donating to local charities, community-building, social activities, and connections with people who share common interests are all good reasons to join. Being a Lion is fun and rewarding!

Members held an ice cream social at the NH Veteran’s Home in Tilton on St. Patrick’s Day. Prior to the parade we greeted a former Antrim man, Peter Martel, who is a member of the local VFW and a resident in the home. After dropping off our donations to their Sunshine Cart, we assisted residents in the parade around the home and served ice cream during the entertainment. The residents appreciated the festivities. One resident commented, “It’s been so long since I’ve had ice cream!”

Through our Christmas Tree sales, Home & Harvest chicken barbecue, and Lions on Monadnock social event, our Lions Club raises money to donate to charities such as The Antrim–Bennington Food Pantry, Grapevine Family & Community Resource Center, Avenue A Teen + Community Center, End 68 Hours of Hunger, and The Dogsight Project for seeing-eye dogs. Thank you for generously supporting our fundraisers. We hope to see many of you at the Home & Harvest barbecue on Saturday, September 13!

Youth programs are very important to our Lions Club. Due to the generosity of one of our members, a weekly photography class has been offered at Antrim Elementary School. In the words of leader Victor Rosansky, “Imagine that you have an opportunity to excite a group of 10-year-olds with a rewarding skill that they can use over their lifetimes and that stimulates and nurtures their creative abilities. Almost every week for a year-and-a-half—rain, snow or sunshine—I have been leading a photography club of 5<sup>th</sup> graders who expressed an interest in learning about the different aspects of photography: how to operate a digital camera, shoot digital images, make short movies, and black and white or color pictures. We discuss, shoot, look at prints and take more pictures. We are all learning from the experiences we are having together, and the quality of our work improves every week.”

The weekly Lunches with Lions at AES continue with many members stepping forward to spend one hour each week eating lunch with students from AES at small tables in the library. During the Field Day BBQ on June 13 our members will barbecue hot dogs, hamburgers, and veggie burgers for students and staff. This is one more way that we partner with Antrim Elementary.

During our last club meeting of each month, a guest speaker provides information about programs and events in our community. In March Linda Piekarski and her “seeing-eye” dog from Marlborough, NH, spoke to the group about the Dogsight project that brings specially trained dogs to those who are sight-impaired. In May a guest speaker from the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) organization described efforts to protect children who are involved in child protective services through the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF).

We extend a warm welcome to anyone who wishes to learn more about our club! ❁

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Eye on bars – photo by AES student

## Eclectic Book Club

Jennifer A. Adams

We're shaking things up at the Eclectic Book Club, no longer holding it at the library but at the Presbyterian Church, and at members' homes when invited. We've outgrown the library space, both in number and in volume of our lively discussions! We've also changed the format so that people now suggest what book they would like to share and then lead the discussion when it's chosen.

Our first book this season was *The Women* by Kristin Hannah, a story of female nurses serving in active military zones in Vietnam. We discussed *The Island Of Sea Women* by Lisa See in May (about the fierce female divers of Jeju Island and the dramatic history that shaped their lives



over eight decades), and we'll be discussing *The Last Report on the Miracles at Little No* by Louise Erdrich on June 19<sup>th</sup> (the story of Agnes DeWitt, who steals the identity of Father Damien and becomes part of a reservation community). We haven't picked July and August yet, but we have given a list of books we would like to

read to the library. The order in which the books get read will depend on which the library can get for us in time each month. The titles we've chosen this year are wide-ranging in both subject matter and release date. These are some of the books on the list:

*The Island Of Missing Trees*, Elif Shafak

*Stoner*, John Williams and John McGahern

*The Great Gatsby*, F. Scott Fitzgerald

*Water Moon*, Samantha Sotto Yambao

*Four Winds*, Kristin Hannah

*Under the Banner of Heaven: A Story of Violent Faith*, Jon Krakauer

*The Midnight Library*, Matt Haig

*Klara and the Sun*, Kazuo Ishiguro

*A Little More than Kin: Book 2 of 7: Darby Chronicles*, Ernest Hebert

*The Passion of Estelle Jordan: Book 4 of 7: Darby Chronicles*, Ernest Hebert

*Spoonwood: Book 6 of 7: Darby Chronicles*, Ernest Hebert

*Howard Elman's Farewell: Book 7 of 7: Darby Chronicles*, Ernest Hebert



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## Some Odd Things About Alpha-gal Syndrome

Dana K. Plank MS, RN

While researching for last year's *Vectors Are a Menace* article, I didn't really see much information about Alpha-gal syndrome (AGS). I did mention AGS but to be quite honest, it was the first time I'd heard of the disease. We did not talk about Alpha-gal syndrome back when I worked as a public health nurse. Not sure why it wasn't in our usual lists alongside Lyme, Babesia, and the other common tick ailments, but maybe it had something to do with the type of tick that carried it.

### Ticks that can carry Alpha-gal

Historically, the lone star tick was the culprit for carrying AGS. Unfortunately, it can also carry many other tick-borne diseases. The tick was originally found in the southeastern US but with increased travel by humans and animals, it has now set up in the northeastern part of the US as well. What's new about AGS, and the reason I decided to write this article, pertains to new studies that uncovered another tick that can carry the disease—the blacklegged deer tick, which is common in New England.

### Oddly different than other tick diseases

What was also interesting is how different AGS is compared to other tick diseases. The other tick diseases are caused by either a bacterium, a virus or a parasite. Not the case with AGS. When either a lone star or a blacklegged tick bites a person, it can transmit a unique carbohydrate commonly called alpha-gal into a person's bloodstream. This carbohydrate is found in all non-primate mammals, but not in humans. Once it is in human blood, our body's immune system produces an antibody against it called an immunoglobulin E or IgE. When we next consume an alpha-gal carbohydrate, say by eating beef or drinking milk, the IgE antibodies can trigger an allergic reaction. The reaction can be somewhat mild to severe, incorporating symptoms such as hives, stomach pain, a drop in blood pressure, or anaphylaxis. This reaction can be delayed, showing signs 2–6 hours after eating. Symptoms of other tick-borne diseases are very different from AGS, ranging from a slight fever, headache, muscle or joint pain, to nausea, fatigue, weakness and/or skin rash.

### Diagnosis of Alpha-gal syndrome

If you've had a tick bite in the recent past and then have an unusual allergic reaction to something you've never reacted to before, this could indicate AGS. Confirmation by a physician, where blood is drawn and tested for IgE antibodies, can confirm the syndrome. IgE levels can drop in some individuals, allowing them to resume consumption of meat and mammal-derived food products. However, if you happen to be bitten again by a tick that passes Alpha-gal to you, the allergic response could happen again.

### What foods can contain Alpha-gal?

Meats like beef, pork, venison, or lamb contain it, as well as other mammal-derived food items such as gelatin or dairy products. Even some medications could carry it so it would be wise to consult with your physician if you are diagnosed with Alpha-gal Syndrome and avoid medications that may contain it.

### How do you treat Alpha-gal Syndrome?

Antihistamines may be prescribed and for a severe anaphylaxis reaction, epinephrine may be warranted. Carrying an EpiPen might be prudent; however, avoidance of any meat or mammal-derived products would be advisable so that any allergic reaction would not be triggered.

As with all tick-related diseases, the best precaution is to be prepared when going outside. The usual recommendations apply:

- Use a repellent that contains the ingredient DEET (N, N-Diethyl-meta-toluamide), known to be effective against ticks.
- Wear long sleeves and pants when outdoors near grasses and brushy areas.
- Check yourself immediately when coming inside from outdoors.
- Use mirrors to help see areas on your body that are difficult to see by yourself or ask a family member to help perform a tick check on areas like your back and scalp.
- And remember “an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure!”

If you want to read more articles on public health topics, visit my website, [ruralnursewriter.com](http://ruralnursewriter.com). ❁

*Thanks to ...*

Ruth Benedict, Thelma and Wayne Nichols and Sonnie and Tad Fish for delivering *The Limrik* to sites all over town.  
~ Editor



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# Grapevine

Melissa Gallagher, Executive Director

Dear Friends,

By the time you read this, our Annual Spring Walk for Families will have come and gone. We are grateful to the people of this community who joined us on a rainy Saturday to celebrate and pledge donations to the Grapevine. A very special thank you to our business sponsors this year, Bellows Nichols Insurance, Eckman Construction, Osram Sylvania, Perry Family Dental, Hillsborough Chrysler Dodge, Hillsborough Ford, Monadnock Community Hospital and Edmunds Ace Hardware, for sponsoring our Spring Walk and to the Frankestown Village Store for hosting a donation jar for customers to contribute to this event! We are also grateful to the volunteers who helped bake a good, set up equipment and supplies and welcomed walkers!

A special welcome and shout-out to some extraordinary volunteers. Welcome to Antrim resident **James Panico** who has recently joined our Board of Directors! James brings sought-after expertise in marketing and graphic design, as well as involvement as a parent at The Grapevine. Thanks to **Mary-Anne Murdough** for weekly cleaning help at The Grapevine; **Rick Edmunds** for his time to assist us with facility needs, Community Tool Lending Shed and for hosting Campfire for Dads; **Bob Edwards** for collecting our trash and recycling each week; **Board Members Jenine Rubin, James Panico, Dana Brien, Kim Fletcher and Rose Novotny** for volunteering their help with our Spring Walk!

**Grapevine Summer Hours:** July 7–August 20: Monday–Wednesday, 9 to 12 or by appointment

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Blindfolded Boat Race!** June 9, starting at 6:30 p.m. at Norway Pond in Hancock. A fun kick-off fundraiser for our Avenue A Teen Center. Register your canoe or come to spectate. Visit [avenueatc.org](http://avenueatc.org) for more info.

**NH Gives 24-hour Online Campaign:** June 10 at 5 p.m. to June 11 at 5 p.m. Join our exciting online campaign to support all of our teen programs at Avenue A Teen + Community Center! Visit [NHgives.org](http://NHgives.org) and find our campaign by searching for The Grapevine.

**Avenue A Teen Center's Grand Opening:** August 23 from 3 to 6 p.m. Come join us for the exciting community introduction of our new Avenue A Teen Center, located at 4 Aiken Street in Antrim! We'll have light refreshments and teen tours of the new space!

## SUMMER PROGRAMS & RESOURCES.

For info on all programs, please give us a call at 603–588–2620 or email us at [info@grapevინeh.org](mailto:info@grapevინeh.org).

**Summer Adventures at The Grapevine.** Children ages 4–6 come join us for a week of fun in the sun at The Grapevine! Miss Paula and Miss Amy will be offering summer painting, water games, crafts and more from 9 a.m. to 12:30.

The first session will be July 7–11, and the second, August 4–8. We are still accepting registrations for our August session. For more info or to register your child please contact Amy Doyle at [amyd@grapevინeh.org](mailto:amyd@grapevინeh.org) or call us.

**Summer Parent/Child Programs.** Caregivers and children will be together for summer fun and connection to other families. There will also be a traveling group that meets in Hillsborough and visits various local places for walks and summer fun!

**SAIL! (Stay Active & Independent for Life)** The Grapevine and Antrim Recreation have partnered to offer an exercise program three days per week. Participants will improve overall strength, balance and coordination in a fun and relaxed setting. This program is offered at NO COST and is geared toward Seniors but open to all. Meets at Antrim Town Hall (wheelchair accessible). Offered Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 11 to noon. Call or email for more information and to register.

## LOOKING AHEAD TO SEPTEMBER...

**Fall Better Beginnings Registration.** Call now if interested in the 2025–26 program year.

- The Better Beginnings Program includes a facilitated parent group and an enrichment program for children ages birth to 5. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday, 9:30 to 11:30.
- Better Beginnings for Babies offers a time for songs, finger plays and adult discussion. Thursdays 10 to 11:30. Open to caregivers and babies birth to 12 months.
- In our Hillsborough Play Group, parents and children ages birth to 5 meet together for parent sharing and child fun! Choose a group on Thursdays either 10 to noon or 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

**Out and About**—an outdoor-based program for parents and their children. Families come together for outdoor fun, local hikes, visits to fun places. Thursday mornings from 10 to 11:30.

**Dads Campfire.** Interested in a Dads Group? Dads don't always get the time to talk together about being a parent and other things that come up along the way. The group is gathering around the campfire with pizza provided, on the first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. Email [caroll@grapevინeh.org](mailto:caroll@grapevინeh.org) for more information or to register.

**Moms Campfire.** Join other moms/caregivers around the campfire at The Grapevine to hang out and talk about life. Every third Wednesday of the month, 6 to 7:30 p.m. Bring your chair and a beverage. Pizza provided. Call to register.

**Learning Vine Outdoor Preschool.** Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9 to noon, during the school year for children ages 3–5. This is an outdoor-based preschool program where all learning is done through games and activities outdoors! For more information please email: [amyd@grapevინeh.org](mailto:amyd@grapevინeh.org) or call.

**Want to get involved? We are always looking for help!** We'll be looking for help as we transition to our expanded site at 4 Aiken Street, including wood prep for the next cold season. Give us a call or email us!

**Spring Cleaning?** Consider gathering some items to donate to our fall yard sale. We are taking household items, toys, and small furniture, no clothes please. Call and talk to Carol before bringing your treasures to The Grapevine.

### **OTHER PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AVAILABLE AT THE GRAPEVINE...**

- Avenue A Teen & Community Center (see their separate article)
- Information and supported referral for resources to meet basic needs such as housing, home heating and food
- Ben Pratt Community Wood Bank
- Community Tool Shed
- Kinship Navigation Program for grandparents and other relative caregivers who are parenting grandchildren, nieces, nephews, etc.
- Home Visiting and One to One Supports: Support for all types of families who need access to community resources, someone to talk to and some extra support.

The Grapevine is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit family and community resource center located at 4 Aiken Street, behind the Tuttle Library. For more information call 603-588-2620. Tax-deductible contributions are gratefully accepted at PO Box 637, Antrim, or drop by the center at 4 Aiken Street. Don't forget to visit us at [www.grapevინeh.org](http://www.grapevინeh.org) and follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/grapevინeh.org> and Instagram: [@thegrapevinefrc](https://www.instagram.com/thegrapevinefrc). ❀

### **News from Avenue A SAME FACES, NEW SPACES!**

Kim Bylancik, Avenue A Coordinator

In the midst of a rainstorm on May 8<sup>th</sup>, volunteers and teens grabbed boxes, loaded furniture, and transported memories across the road to Aiken Street, ushering in a new era for the Avenue A Teen Center! Twenty-four hours later the space was filled for our Friday Night Open Hours. Teens greeted their friends, explored the area and found their new favorite spots to relax and connect with one another. Leading up to the move, many teens naturally expressed sadness at leaving what they thought of as "their" space, but upon walking in the door, they discovered their artwork on the walls, twinkle lights above, and the familiar sounds of music, laughter and camaraderie, bringing new excitement for their new home.

On Saturday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, Avenue A will welcome the public to the official "Grand Opening." Please celebrate with us and take a teen-led tour of this new community asset!

While building the new Teen Center has been on everyone's mind, our programming has been non-stop through the spring! Warmer weather meant the waters were ready

for our Fishing Group, and both the rain and sun greeted our middle school Outdoor Adventurers. Our high school Write Out! group welcomed in residents from RiverMead for a special evening of collaborative writing, and a teen-requested Tea Party in early spring transformed the space into a fairy-themed wonderland with delicious food, tea trivia and tea tastings! April 3<sup>rd</sup> brought teens, families and community members together at Town Hall to share stories and celebrate our seventy-five volunteers during our annual Volunteer Appreciation Night, a highlight for Avenue A each year. And under the guidance of volunteer John Conklin, members from the Woodworking Group made furniture for the new center, including much-needed storage shelves and the center focal piece for gathering, our beautiful new "snack counter!"

This spring also marked our second local Teen Leadership Day, in which sixteen teens plus volunteers spent a full day focusing on, "Stepping Up, Stepping Back, and Encouraging Others Forward." The day included teambuilding with Doug Southerland, supporting teammates while trying new things with Flying Gravity Circus, and having meaningful intergenerational conversations with seniors from RiverMead to make connections and challenge assumptions. Feedback from teens included, "*I learned you don't have to be 'in charge' to be a leader,*" "*Leadership can be shown by letting others take action,*" "*We all make assumptions, but we need to be careful about what assumptions we make,*" and "*Older people are cool!*" We are grateful to the Grand Monadnock Rotary Club for their financial support of our Leadership Days!

None of our programming would be possible without the support of the community, and on June 9<sup>th</sup> we welcome you to join our most exciting fundraising event of the season: the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Avenue A Blindfolded Boat Race! Held in the evening at Norway Pond in Hancock, heats of teams will race for fun and glory as a kick-off to our New Hampshire Gives campaign. The bow (front) paddler is blindfolded, while the person in the stern without a paddle shouts directions! Costumes are encouraged, and good communication wins the day. Whether you are racing or cheering from the shore, it is non-stop hilarious fun! Get involved by entering a team, sponsoring a teen boat, or cheering from the shore. Last year's winner was the Antrim Police, so spectators can come watch to see if rookie officers Madison Jones and Filipe Maia are up to the challenge of defending the title!

Finally, as we move into summer, teens eagerly await summer programming staples, including themed Campfire Nights, middle school Stream Adventures, grilling during our summer T.A.C.O. cooking group, and joining the infamous Avenue A Lawn Chair Drill Team! For our full summer schedule and information on the Blindfolded Boat Race, visit [avenueatc.org](http://avenueatc.org). To sign up for a program or to learn more, email us at [avenuea@grapevინeh.org](mailto:avenuea@grapevინeh.org). We can't wait to connect with you this summer! ❀

**RICK DIANE'S & FAMILY!**

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**BRICKOVEN PIZZA**

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